Sekirei
SAKURAKO
GOKURAKUIN
8

Sekirei 8

SAKURAKO GOKURAKUIN

SEKIREI ⑧

Gokurakuin Sakurako

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Chapter 66: Shape of a Soul

OH...WHAT DID HE DO, EXACTLY?
HE DID IT...!
MINA-TAN REALLY DID IT!!
WATCHING VIA SPY SATELLITE
WHOA.
THIS IS...
MY, MY.
EEK.
MIYA-TAN.
KAGARI-CHAN.
GLOW
110

THE FLAMES HAVE CALMED.
...WHAT...? WHAT IS THIS...? THIS FEELING...
MY BODY...
HOMURA.
YOU'RE A SPECIAL SORT OF SEKIREI.
...HAVE NOW FUSED WITH MY VERY SOUL.
THE FEVER BURNING MY BODY AND THAT GRATING PAIN HAVE VANISHED.
MY POWER AND MY BODY ONCE DIVER-GENT...

I'M CERTAIN THERE'S NO ASHIKABI OUT THERE WHO CAN WING YOU.
HOWEVER ...
...THAT'S JUST... PRESENTLY.
THIS THOUGHT IS TOO ROMANTIC AND UNBEFITTING A SCIENTIST SUCH AS MYSELF, BUT...
...AN ASHIKABI'S POWER IS THE POWER OF BONDS.
THE POWER THAT LETS THEM MEET SEKIREI, FORGE CONNECTIONS... AND THEN FIND MORE.
POWER BORN OF FEELINGS FOR OTHERS.
AN ASHIKABI'S POWER IS STRENGTHENED BY THE DEPTH OF THOSE BONDS.

A HUMAN CAPABLE OF GETTING THROUGH TO YOU WILL INEVITABLY APPEAR.
IT WILL BE AN ASHIKABI BORN OF MULTIPLE BONDS.
THAT WILL BE YOUR ASHIKABI.

...THE FLAMES.
LOOKS LIKE THEY STOPPED... HUH?
THANK GOODN—
SAHASHI !!
... S—
SORRY...
WHY'RE YOU APOL-OGIZING!?
YOU IDIOT!! HOW COULD YOU JUMP INTO THE FLAMES LIKE THAT...?

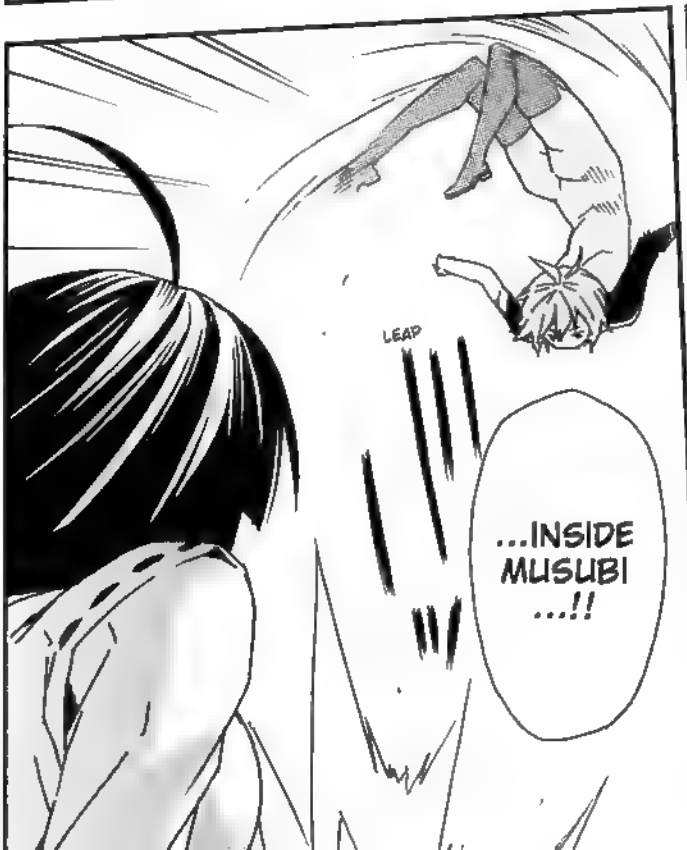
I WAS AN IDIOT FOR BROODING OVER THAT THIS WHOLE TIME.
THAT REALLY DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE ...
..... AHH.
THAT'S WHY I... SORRY...
I THOUGHT YOUR POWER MIGHT STABILIZE IF I WINGED YOU.
JUST LIKE MOM TOLD ME... SO I...
SFX: BLUSH
I MEAN... YOU'RE A GUY.
Y-YES...
.....
ARE YOU APOLO-GIZING FOR THIS KISS?
BUT ARE YOU READY TO TAKE RESPON-SIBILITY, NOW?
MINATO SAHASHI?

SPLASH
EH...
EH...!?
:HEH HEH...
RE-RESPON-SIBILITY!?
RESPON-SIBILITY... DO YOU MEAN...
..."TOGETHER FOREVER"!?
DRENCHED
THAT LINE IS MEANT TO SPOKEN BY SEKIREI, FOOL!!
...INDEED!
I DID GIVE HIM PERMISSION TO WED...!
IT'S TRUE. I SAID IT!! ...YET...
I HAVE A FEELING WE'RE ABOUT TO WITNESS SOMETHING INTERESTING.
STARE
.....
WHAT IS IT, MIYA-TAN?

I'M FORCED TO WATCH MY HUSBAND... KISS...ONE OTHER THAN MYSELF...!!
I AM NOT AMUSED...
NOT AMUSED ...!!
RUMBLE
ANGER, HATRED, JOY, SADNESS... EVEN LOVE.
THE STRENGTH OF THESE EMOTIONS HAS A DIRECT AND REMARKABLE EFFECT ON THOSE ABILITIES.
SEKIREI ARE SO FASCINATING.
THE STATE OF THEIR HEARTS AND THE SHAPES OF THEIR SOULS ARE REFLECTED IN THEIR ABILITIES.

ORDINARY TRAINING CANNOT PUSH THEIR POWERS PAST A CERTAIN STANDARD, BUT...
...I EXPECT THAT THOSE GIRLS HAVE GROWN CONSIDERABLY OF LATE.
FU-FU... I'M EXCITED TO SEE WHAT THEY CAN DO.
!?
SPLASH
WH-WHAT'S THAT?
WAIT...
"YAMATA NO OROCHI."

POW
POW


LEAP
...INSIDE MUSUBI ...!!

MUSUBI JUST REALIZED...

...A BLACK... A BLACK BEAST...
...THAT INSIDE MUSUBI... THERE IS...

IT'S BEEN HERE ALL ALONG.
INSIDE MUSUBI ...
SHUDDER
A BLACK ...
BEAR ...!!
ROAR

BEAR FIST!!

Chapter 67: Wife's Words

Chapter 67: Wife's Words

03
108
09

HISS!!
YA-MEOW-TA NO OROCHI!!

SLAM
GAHH.
...EH...
...EH?
AH...
I CAN'T.
THUMP
STRAIN
I'M SORRY.
MAS...
...TER...

EEK!
HISS

NOOO, SNAKES.
I HATE SNAKES.

SO GROSS. STAY AWAY.
!
TCH.

SKID
SHIT.
NO MORE MESSING AROUND.

SPIN
INTER-ESTING.
IT APPEARS AS THOUGH NO. 06'S BEEN WINGED...
EVEN KATSURAGI GOT DONE IN!
SLICE
DUCK
HOW'D YOU LET YOURSELF GET CAUGHT, KAKIZAKI!?

IF ONLY HIGA-SAMA WAS HERE... I'D TAKE THEM OUT WITH MY NORITO.
BUT EVERYONE ELSE ALREADY FOLLOWED HIGA-SAMA'S ORDERS AND HEADED BACK. GEEZ!
BZZ
BZZ

THAT WAS HIGA-SAMA.
IT WAS A RETREAT ORDER.
SNAP

ORIHA.
WHAT?

BEEP
YES?
...AH.
UNDER-STOOD.

TCH...

I'VE JUST GOT A WEALTH OF EXPERIENCE.
IN... MANY WAYS.

YOU'RE GOOD, BIG SIS.
REALLY GOOD.
I'D HEARD THAT NUMBERS 01 THROUGH 05 WERE NO JOKE, BUT STILL...

...
BUT...
WIND

LIKE YOU...
...I CAN'T LOSE HERE EITHER.

THEY'RE THE EYES OF ONE WHO KNOWS LOVE. ♡♡
GOOD. I SEE THE RESOLVE IN YOUR EYES.

NO. 10!
WE HAVE A RETREAT ORDER.
IT SUCKS, BUT WE'VE GOTTA GO!
PLAP
...YOU GET TO KEEP YOUR LIFE FOR NOW, BIG SIS.
SPIN

I BELIEVE THAT'S MY LINE.
SEE YA.
ONLY COWARDS RUN FROM BATTLE!
COME BACK, YOU TWO.
TSU—
TSUKI-UMI!
IT'S FINE! LET THEM GO.
KAGARI-SAN IS SAFE NOW.
THERE'S NO MORE REASON TO FIGHT HERE.

BIG BRO. KAGARI-CHAN.
HMPH...
WHERE'S MUSUBI-CHAN...?
WHEN A SEKIREI CEASES TO FUNCTION, MBI OR SOME ORGANIZATION COMES TO COLLECT HER.
IT'S CUSTOMARY TO WATCH OVER ONE'S DEFEATED OPPONENT UNTIL MBI ARRIVES TO TIDY UP...
IT'S SIMPLY A MATTER OF ETIQUETTE, EVEN IN THIS GRAND BATTLE.
AH...
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM

OKAY.
LET'S GO HOME, MINATO-SAN. ♡
YEAH.
LET'S GO HOME.
TO IZUMO INN.
YOU TOO, KAGARI-SAN.

BUT MY HEART IS AT PEACE.
... BUT...
MY THOUGHTS ARE HONESTLY STILL A LITTLE CONFUSED.
TOGETHER FOREVER.

PHEW.
THAT'S ONE CASE CLOSED.
WELL, NOT SO MUCH "CLOSED."
MORE OF A BEGINNING.
THE INSTANT HOMURA WAS WINGED MARKED THE END OF PHASE TWO.
WE'RE MOVING TO THE NEXT STAGE OF THE SEKIREI PROJECT.
TEITO WILL TRANSFORM INTO A SITE FOR THE NEXT PART OF THE GAME.
SEKIREI WILL BATHE IN EACH OTHER'S BLOOD...
...IN THIS, THE THIRD PHASE.....

Chapter 68: Your Ashikabi

FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
...KAGARI-SAN.
UMM...
DO YOU STILL WANT TO KILL...
...THE CEO, MINAKA?

WOULD IT HAVE TO BE NOW OR NEVER?
UM...

IF I SAID I DID...
...WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

...FOR NOW, I WANT US ALL TO RETURN HOME TO IZUMO INN.
... BUT...
I WANT ALL OF US TO GO, TOGETHER.

I'M NOT ASKING FOR PRACTICAL REASONS...
IT'S JUST THAT I KNOW...
...!?

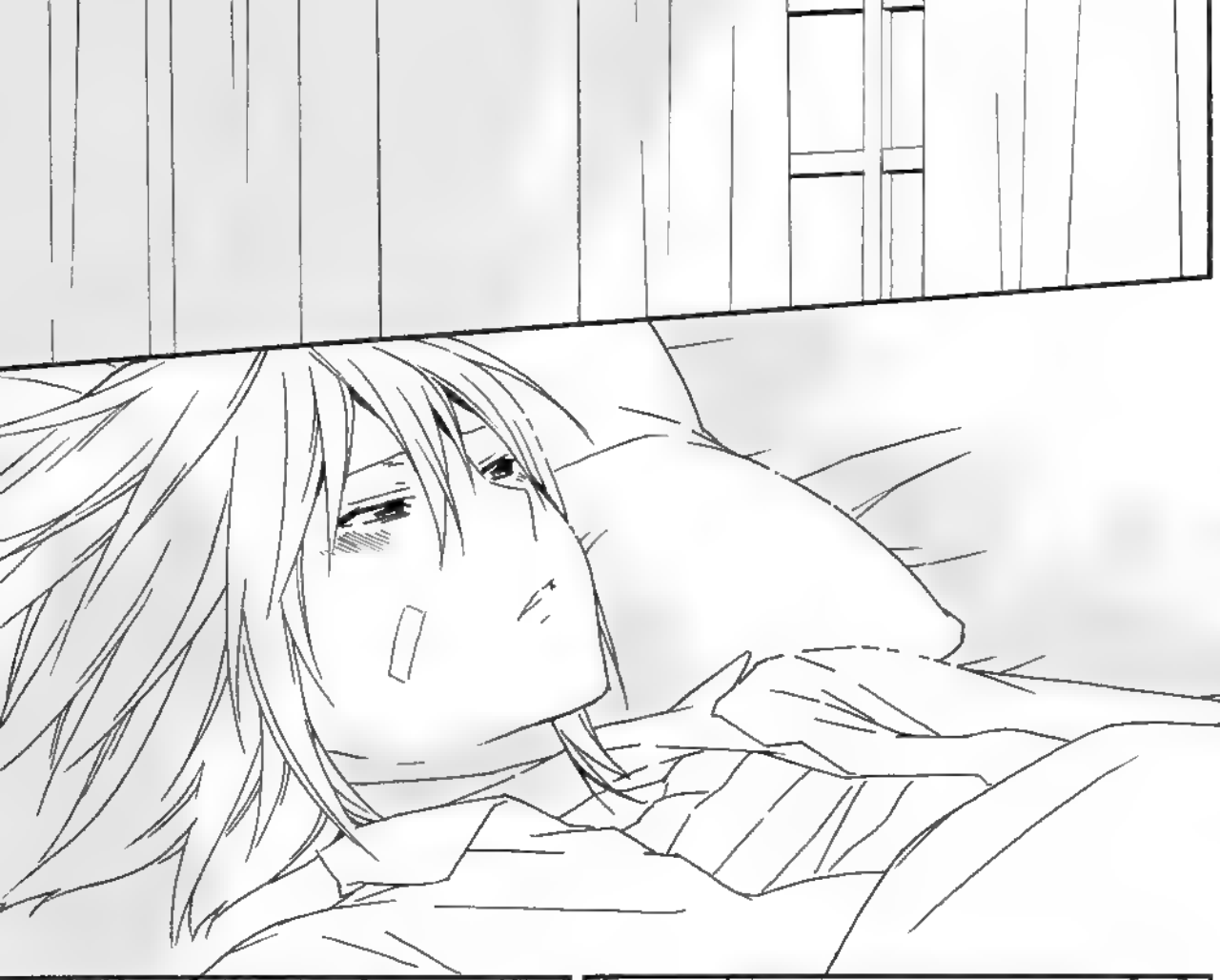
...YOUR FEELINGS ABOUT IT ARE COMPLICATED, KAGARI-SAN.
AND I REALLY DON'T HAVE ANY RIGHT TO STOP YOU.

GRIP
AND I DON'T FEEL...
...LIKE LETTING A FRIEND RUN OFF...
...TO GET NEEDLESSLY KILLED BY THE DIS-CIPLINARY SQUAD.
I WON'T RUN OFF.
!
FOR NOW...
BECAUSE...
I'M HAVING A HARD ENOUGH TIME AS IT IS ACCEPTING THAT A MAN WAS THE ONE TO WING ME.
I-I SEE...
SQUEEZE
OUCH, THAT HURTS.

A FRIEND... HUH?
MINATO-SAAAN! KAGARI-SAAAN!

I SAW IT.
... WHY... THAT WAS...
I FEEL LIKE NOW...I UNDER-STAND...
THE REASON... I REACTED TO YOU...
MINATO SAHASHI.
AND THE STRAIGHT-FORWARD WAY YOU RETURNED THOSE FEELINGS.
KAGARI-SAN!?
THEIR INEVITABLE FEELINGS FOR YOU.
KAGARI-SAN.
SO KIND...
KAGARI-SAN.
.....
THOSE KIND FEEL-INGS.

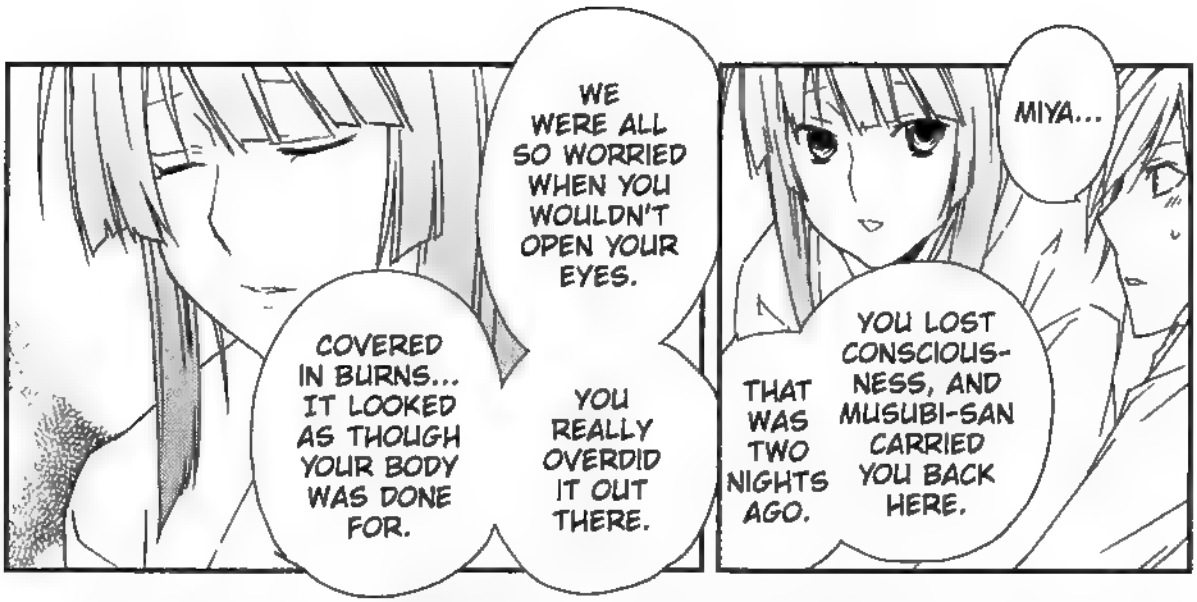
I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT I THINK I GET IT NOW, MINAKA. AT LEAST A BIT.
THE MEANING OF AN ASHIKABI, TO A SEKIREI.



OH! KAGARI-SAN.
YOU'RE FINALLY AWAKE.

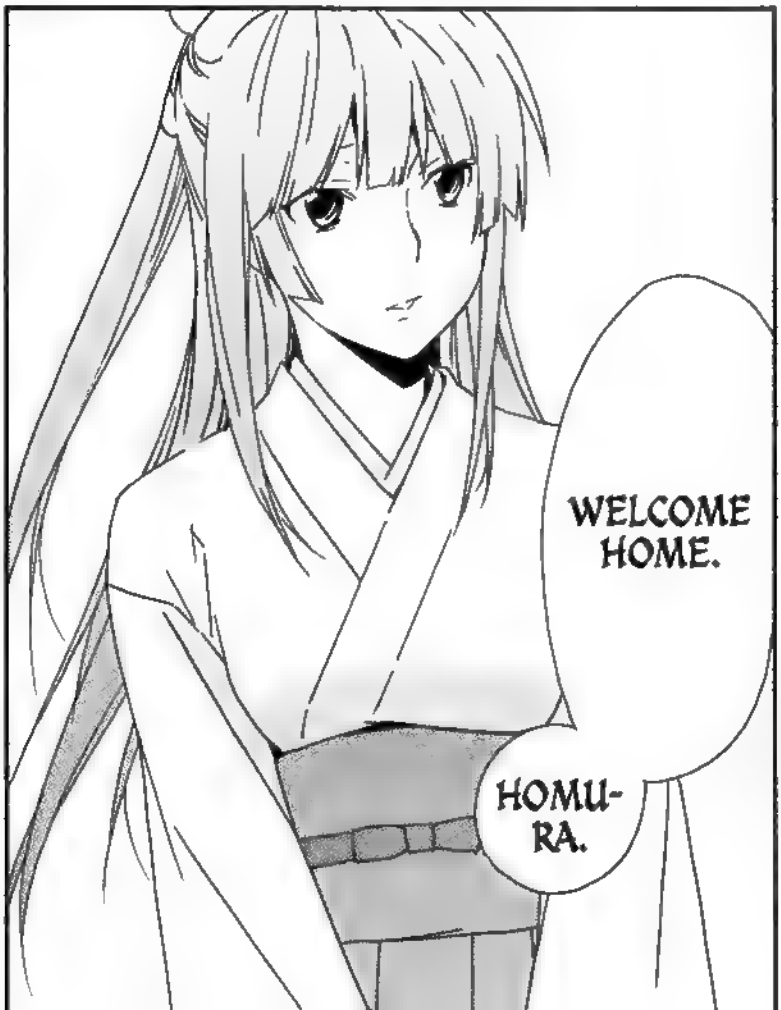
OW...
I'M IN.....MY ROOM.....?

KLAK


MIYA...
YOU LOST CONSCIOUSNESS, AND MUSUBI-SAN CARRIED YOU BACK HERE.
THAT WAS TWO NIGHTS AGO.
WE WERE ALL SO WORRIED WHEN YOU WOULDN'T OPEN YOUR EYES.
YOU REALLY OVERDID IT OUT THERE.
COVERED IN BURNS... IT LOOKED AS THOUGH YOUR BODY WAS DONE FOR.

OH, DON'T WORRY. I BANDAGED YOU MYSELF.
I DIDN'T LET THAT EROTIC WITCH LAY A FINGER ON YOU.

MIYA.
...I...


WELCOME HOME.
HOMU-RA.

...IS ENOUGH FOR ME.
THAT YOU RETURNED SAFELY...
ABOUT WHAT YOU HAD SET OUT TO ACCOMPLISH.
YOU NEEDN'T SAY A WORD.
I WON'T ASK ANY MORE QUESTIONS.
PHYSICALLY, YOU'RE ALL JUST ABOUT AS OLD AS I AM!
HOW RUDE!
FU-FU...
YOU REALLY ARE LIKE A MOTHER.
HE'S BEEN AT YOUR BEDSIDE THIS WHOLE TIME...
YOU OUGHT TO WAKE *HIM* TO EASE HIS MIND.
I'M BACK NOW.
...DYING WAS TOO HARD FOR ME.

...NNN...
AH... HUH?
KAGARI-SAN.
Y-YOU OKAY?
UM...YOU COLLAPSED AND...
...YES. I'M FINE NOW.
THANK GOOD-NESS.
UMM.
THESE BANDAGES ARE SOAKED WITH SWEAT. IT'S GROSS.
COULD YOU HELP ME CHANGE THEM?
AH... SURE.

...ACTUALLY, WE NEED TO TALK...
...ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON WITH ME.
LET'S SEE.
AND SOME OINTMENT ...
BANDAGES, BANDAGES ...
.....WAIT.
AH.
KAGARI-SAN HAS BOOBS NOW!!
LET'S CALL MS. LAND-LADY AND...
U-UM, I DON'T THINK I'M THE RIGHT GUY FOR THIS.
ABOUT HOW I'M NOT LIKE THE OTHER SEKIREI.
I'M SURE YOU HAVE A VAGUE IDEA ALREADY.
...I CAN CHANGE GENDER ACCORDING TO MY ASHIKABI'S WILL.
IN ORDER TO PROPERLY SERVE THE ONE WHO BONDS TO ME...

IN OTHER WORDS, MINATO SAHASHI ...
...THIS MUST BE YOUR WILL.
...I SUPPOSE.
AH...!
I'M NOT ALLOWED TO JUST LIVE FOR MYSELF.

...HOW DO YOU WANT ME?
SO...
...EVEN THAT CAN CHANGE IF MY ASHIKABI WISHES IT.
MENTALLY, I'M MORE OF A MALE, BUT...

GRIP
KAGARI-SAN.

SAHASHI ...!
I'M BEING SERIOUS HERE...!!
LEMME JUST APPLY THAT OINTMENT.
TO A VIRGIN LIKE ME, THOSE BOOBS ARE LIKE POISON.
I'M NOT ANYWHERE NEAR AS EXPERIENCED AS YOU, KAGARI-SAN.

!
SPIN
SQUISH

CHANGING TO SERVE ME PROPERLY OR WHATEVER...
I'M NOT A FAN OF ALL THAT.
...YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT I WANT?
FOR YOU TO BE HOWEVER YOU WANT, KAGARI-SAN.

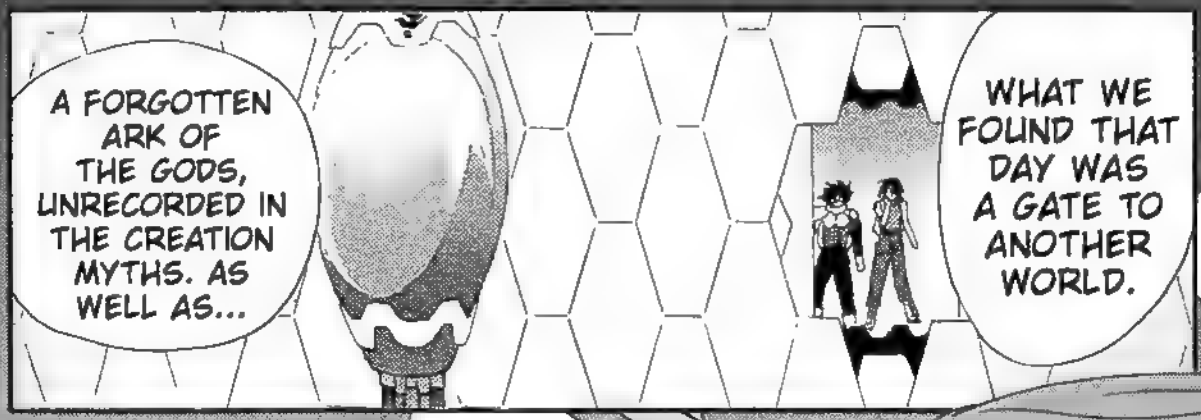
JUST BE YOURSELF, PLEASE.
THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.
THANK YOU.
SA-HASHI.

Chapter 69: A Far-Off Tale

THE FINAL WINGS OF LIGHT HAVE SPREAD.
SO ENDS THE CHAOTIC PHASE TWO.
THE SEKIREI PROJECT WILL FINALLY COME TO A HEAD.
IN THE AGE OF THE GODS... THE RECORD OF THIS TOUCHING BATTLE WILL BE WRITTEN ...!!

108
SEKIREI
WERE
RELEASED.

TWENTY-ONE YEARS AGO.


A FORGOTTEN ARK OF THE GODS, UNRECORDED IN THE CREATION MYTHS. AS WELL AS...
WHAT WE FOUND THAT DAY WAS A GATE TO ANOTHER WORLD.

...ONE "PILLAR" ...
...AND 107 FLEDGLINGS.
OH, HOW THRILLED I WAS!!
A NEW, MYSTERIOUS ISLAND! AN ENIGMATIC ARK!
AND WHAT SHOULD EMERGE BUT AN UNCLOTHED MAIDEN!!
A TURN TO MAKE ANY BOY'S HEART POUND WITH EXCITEMENT !!
IT ALL BEGAN THAT DAY.
THE STEPS NEEDED TO MAKE MBI WHAT IT IS TODAY...
...AND THE REVELATION OF THE SEKIREI PROJECT'S TRUE NATURE.

LET THE SAVAGE PHASE THREE BEGIN.

WELL?

WHO WILL BE THE LAST ONE STANDING !?

OKAY THEN, KAGARI-SAN.
I'LL... HEAD BACK TO MY ROOM.
JOLT
!

BUT WHY ...?
SLEEPING ...IN THE HALLWAY?
? ?
EH-HEH-HEH. WE WERE WORRIED ABOUT KAGARI-SAN.
WE MUST HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP WAITING OUT HERE.
MINATO-SAN. ♡
AH...
MMM...
I THINK KAGARI-SAN'S ALL RIGHT NOW.
OHH!♡ HOW WONDERFUL.
WE CAN FINALLY EXTRACT THE RENT PAYMENT NOW.♡♡
EXTRACT...?
MINAATOO.

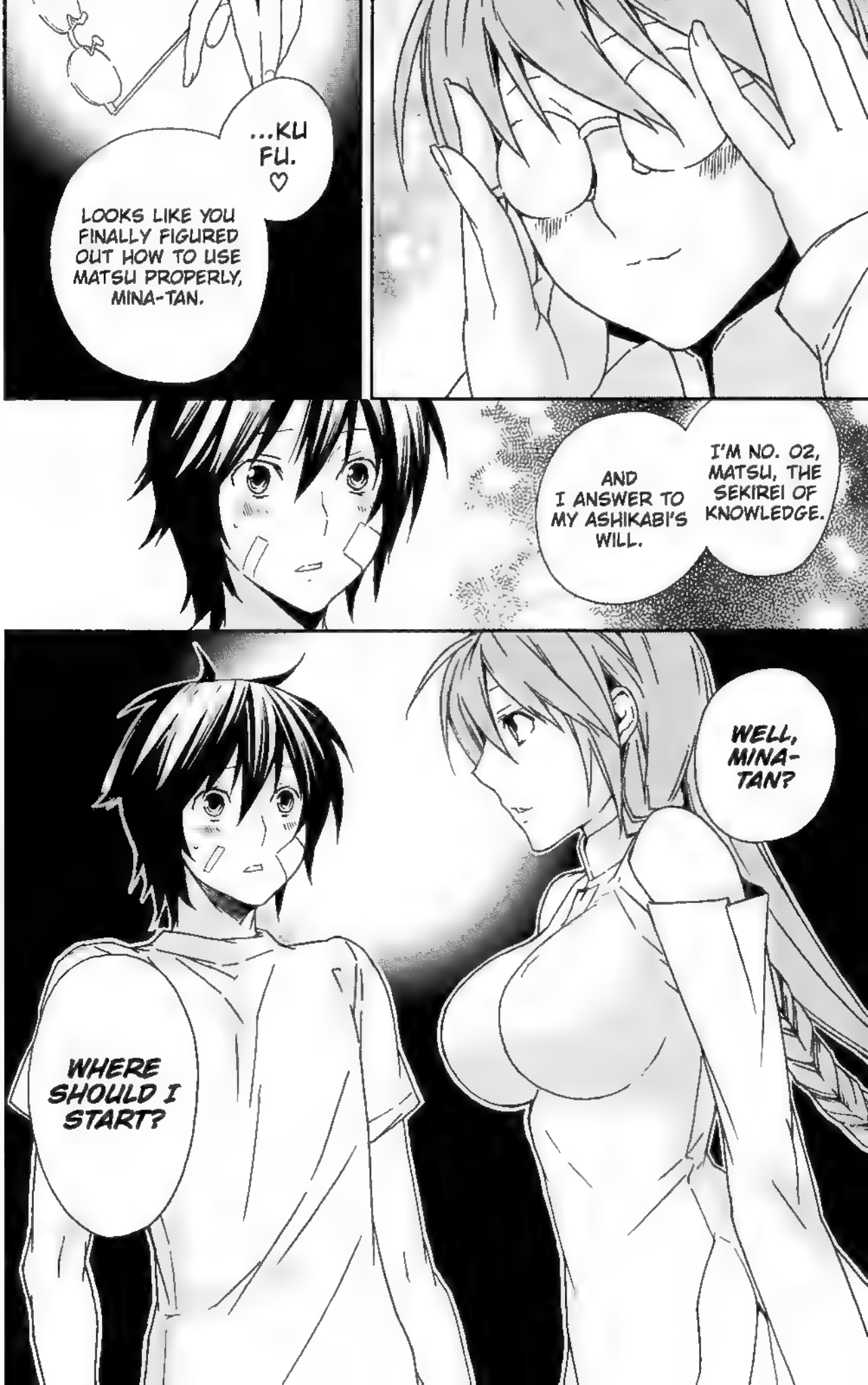
I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU WERE DOING ANYTHING TO FEEL GUILTY ABOUT, ALONE IN THERE WITH HOMURA ...?
PEEK
TCH.
MATSU-SAN!!
SERIOUSLY? YOU DIDN'T TAKE ADVANTAGE ?
N-NO, OF COURSE NOT.
COME ON, GUYS.
STOP TREATING ME LIKE A BEAST THE WAY MS. LANDLADY DOES...
CREAK
KU-FU-KU-FU.
BUT THAT KAGARI-TAN...
THOSE FULL BREASTS COULD EASILY COMPEL A MAN TO...

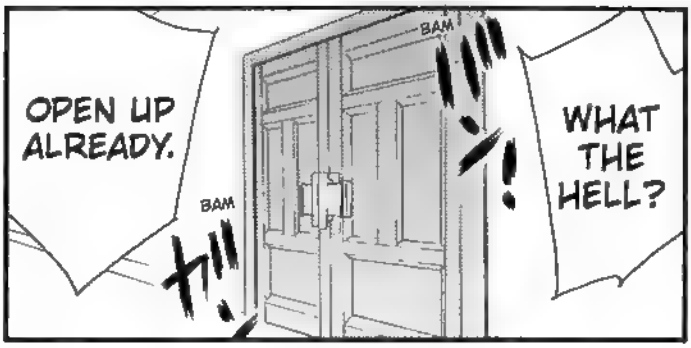
SLAM
バタン!
B-BURNING ME WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A WORD, NOW...?
GYAH!
FOOM
KAGARI... HOMURA-TAN SEEMS TO BE STABILIZED NOW.
MATSU'S RELIEVED.
BUT MINA-TAN...
YOUR WINGING HIM SAVED HIM, MINA-TAN.
AS I MENTIONED BEFORE, HOMURA-TAN IS A SPECIAL SORT OF SEKIREI...
HIS BODY AND MIND WOULD BE IN BIG TROUBLE IF HE STILL HADN'T STABILIZED BY THIS POINT.

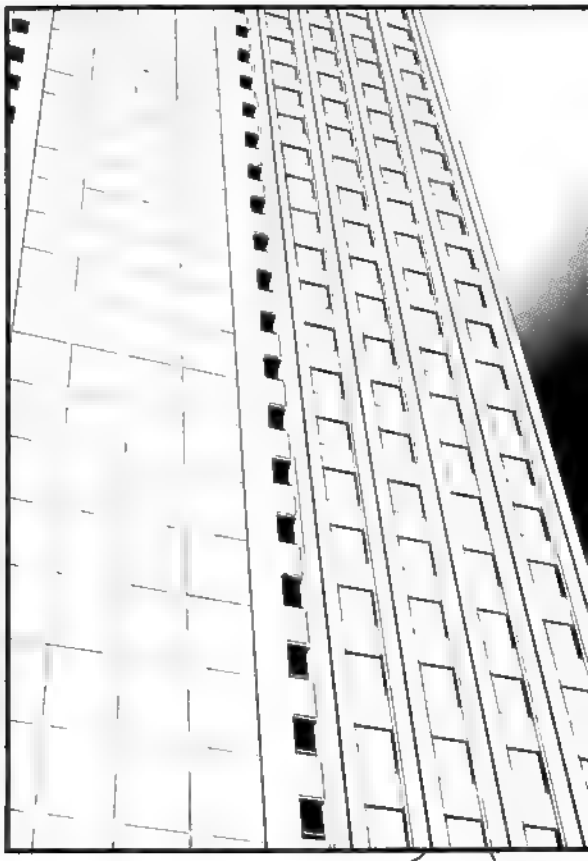
BASED ON WHAT NO. 04 TOLD MUSUBI...
...PHASE THREE WILL SOON BEGIN.
SO THIS IS ALL BECAUSE YOU WANT TO BOLSTER OUR FORCES?
ALL ACCORDING TO YOUR PLAN, THEN.
WINGING HOMURA HAS GIVEN MINATO YET ANOTHER PAWN.
I UNDERSTAND YOU SIMILARLY ENCOURAGED HIM TO ACQUIRE ME?
WITH HOMURA WINGED, YOU CAN NO LONGER SIDESTEP THE QUESTION.
ANSWER ME, MATSU!! HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE SEKIREI PROJECT?

MATSU-SAN.
I...
... BARELY KNOW ANY-THING.
ABOUT ASHIKABI, SEKIREI...
...OR MBI.
I CAN'T... GO ON LIKE THIS.

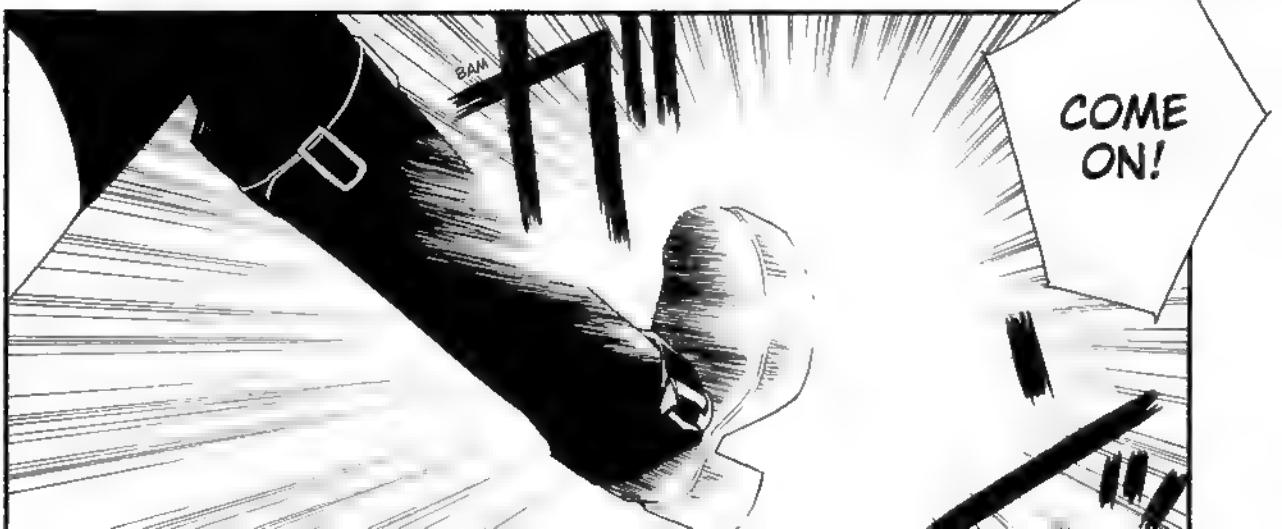
THIS TIME TOO.
WE RAN INTO SOME OTHER SEKIREI WHILE CHASING KAGARI-SAN.
WE WERE FORCED TO FIGHT...
THEN, DURING THE ESCAPE PLAN...
MY IGNORANCE... IT PUT MUSUBI-CHAN...AND EVERYONE...
...IN SO MUCH DANGER.
I...CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE. NOT KNOWING ANYTHING. NOT UNDER-STANDING.
MAKING EVERYONE FIGHT WHILE I'M STILL SO IGNORANT ABOUT IT ALL...!
SO I NEED YOU TO TELL ME, MATSU-SAN.
ABOUT THE SEKIREI PROJECT AND ALL OF YOU HERE.
ABOUT WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN FROM NOW ON.


...KU FU. ♡
LOOKS LIKE YOU FINALLY FIGURED OUT HOW TO USE MATSU PROPERLY, MINA-TAN.
I'M NO. 02, MATSU, THE SEKIREI OF KNOWLEDGE.
AND I ANSWER TO MY ASHIKABI'S WILL.
WELL, MINA-TAN?
WHERE SHOULD I START?


OPEN UP ALREADY.
BAM
BAM
WHAT THE HELL?



YOU CAN'T JUST EXPECT ME TO STAND FOR IT.
SHUTTING ME IN A PLACE LIKE THIS...
BAM
BAM


BAM
COME ON!

...
...UHHH.
FWUMP
WHAT DO I DO...?
SHIINA.
BIG BRO...

Chapter 70: Imprisoned Ashikabi

BIG BRO.
...IF ONLY YOU KNEW THE TROUBLE I'M IN...
YOU'D BE SO WORRIED ABOUT ME...
RUB
TEITO'S A DANGEROUS PLACE, YOU KNOW?
WATCH YOUR BACK, YUKARI.
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF HARMING YOU.
YUKARI SAHASHI-SAN.
...YEAH.
I SHOULD'VE LISTENED TO BIG BRO...

I MERELY WISH TO BE FRIENDS.

THIS FEELS WRONG.
I'M GETTING BAD VIBES FROM HIM.
YUKARI-SAN.
LET'S RUN.
SHIINA?
SHI—

CRUMBLE
OHH.
THE RUMORS DID SAY YOU HAD AN INTERESTING POWER.
BURST
FWIP
SHIINA.
HOWEVER ...
WHEN YOU RELY ON ABILITIES, YOUR WEAKNESSES ARE ALL TOO EASY TO EXPLOIT.

WHAM
TAP
SKID
SHIINA!!

GRAB
YOU COWARD!! SEKIREI BATTLES'RE SUPPOSED TO BE ONE-ON-ONE!!
NO...
GET OFF.
GET OFF ME.
YOU REFER TO THE RULES OF THE SEKIREI PROJECT...?
SADLY, I'VE NO INTEREST IN COMPLYING WITH THAT FARCE.
YUKARI...
...SAN...
WHA—?

SHIINA!!
I PROMISE YOU YOUR SEKIREI WILL NOT BE HARMED.
YOU'RE GOING TO CALM DOWN AND COME WITH ME. NOW.

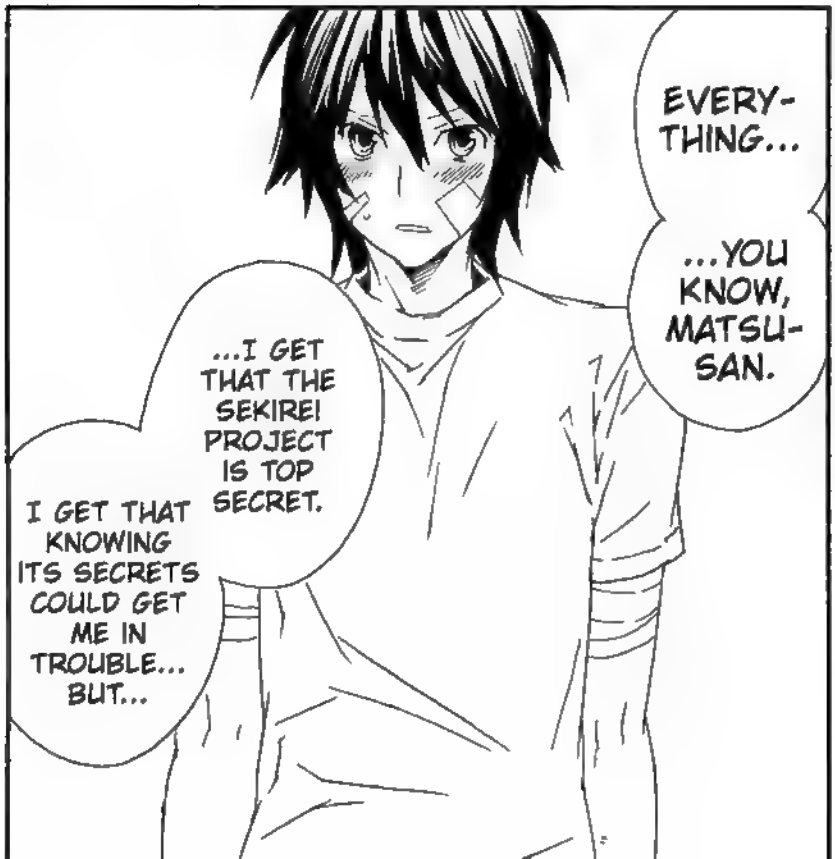
YOU'LL GET TO SEE YOUR SEKIREI LATER. WORRY NOT.
THIS CAR ONLY SEATS TWO.
YOU'RE THE WEIRD DUDE WHO SEPARATED ME FROM SHIINA AND STUCK ME IN HIS CAR! OF COURSE I'M ON GUARD!!
SURE THERE IS!!
NO NEED TO BE ON GUARD LIKE THAT.

YOUR BROTHER, HMM?
HE'S ANOTHER I'D LOVE TO MEET.
MY WORRYWART OF A BROTHER WOULD FREAK IF HE KNEW WHAT WAS HAPPENING TO ME.....
SIGH...
ALLOW ME TO BE DIRECT AND TELL YOU WHAT I WANT.
I HATE BEATING AROUND THE BUSH, THOUGH.
YUKARI SAHASHI-SAN,
YOU STILL CAN'T COMPREHEND YOUR OWN VALUE...
HUH?
AND WHY'S THAT...?
WILL YOU MARRY ME?

HUHHH?
YOU'LL STAY AT MY MANSION IN THE MEANTIME.
SO FEEL FREE TO THINK ON IT BEFORE GIVING ME AN ANSWER.
...HUH?
HOW'D I GET MYSELF INTO THIS BIZARRE SITUATION...?
EVEN I CAN'T HELP BUT PANIC A LITTLE, GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES.
HELP ME, BIG BRO.
SHIINA...

Chapter 71: Ashikabi's Determination

WELL, MINA-TAN?
WHERE SHOULD I START?

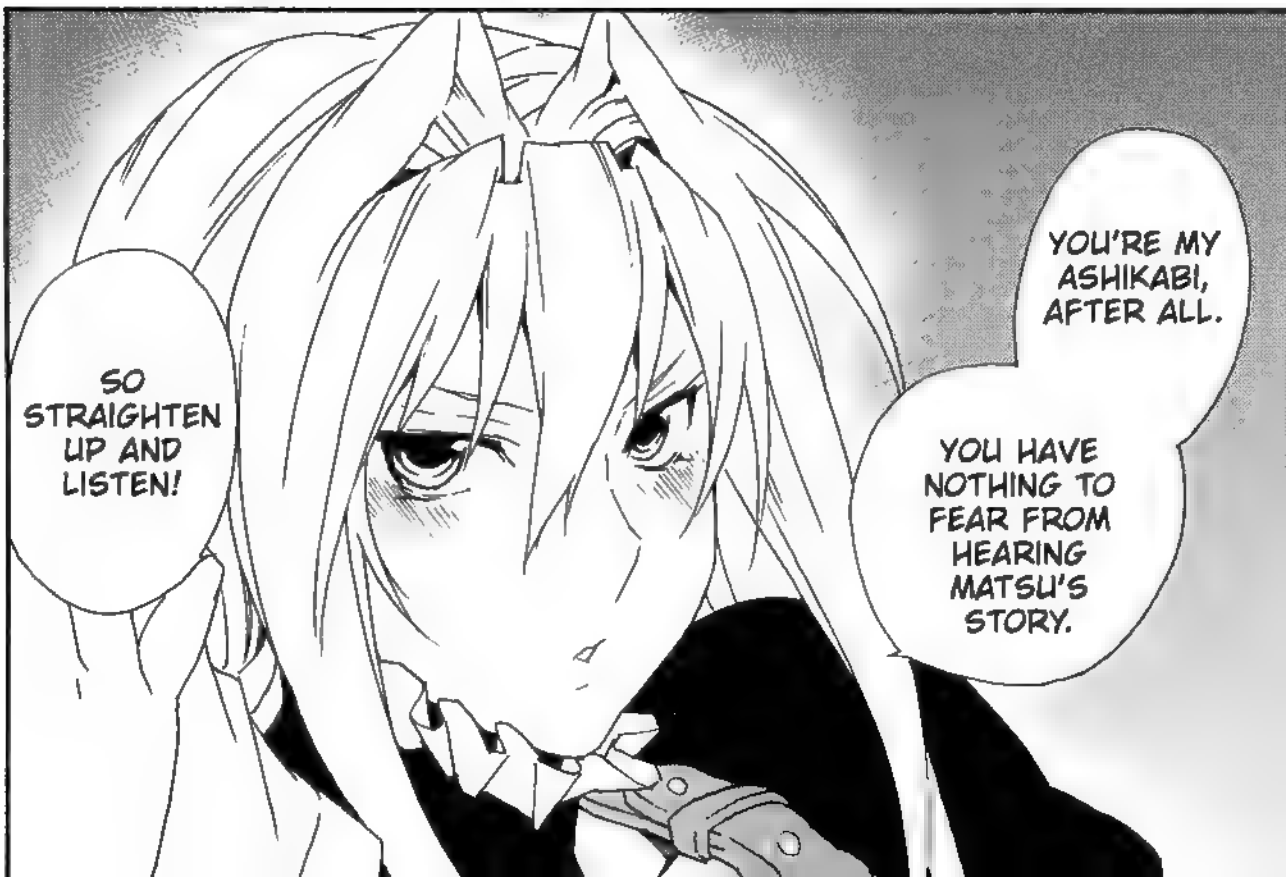

I GET THAT KNOWING ITS SECRETS COULD GET ME IN TROUBLE... BUT...
...I GET THAT THE SEKIREI PROJECT IS TOP SECRET.
EVERY-THING...
...YOU KNOW, MATSU-SAN.

TELL ME... EVERY-THING.

I'M DETERMINED.
I...
I'VE FOUND MY RESOLVE...
...AS AN ASHIKABI.

IT'S OKAY!
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, MUSUBI WILL PROTECT YOU, MINATO-SAN!
MUSUBI-CHAN...
TOUCH
ス…

YOU BUNGLER!
TSU-TSUKI-UMI.

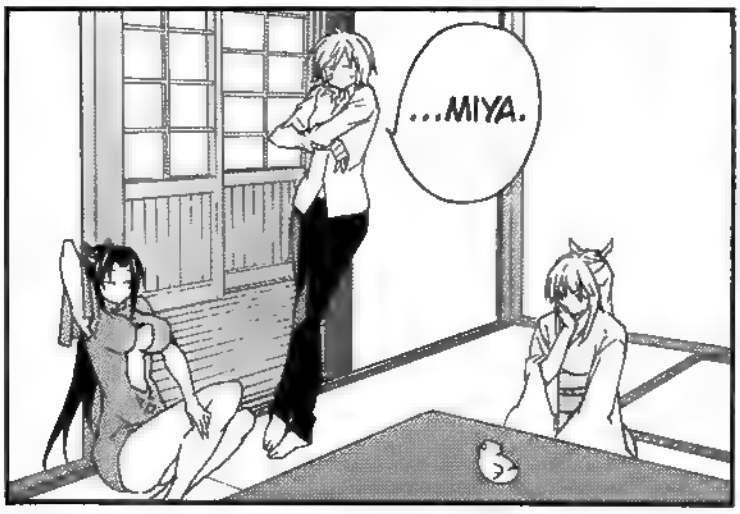

YOU'RE MY ASHIKABI, AFTER ALL.
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM HEARING MATSU'S STORY.
SO STRAIGHTEN UP AND LISTEN!

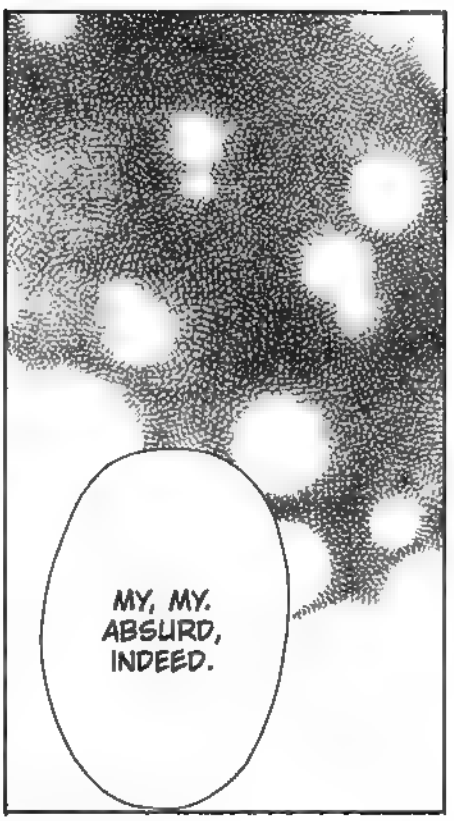
MIIINAAA-TAAAN.
KU'S HERE TOO!
PLEASE, GO ON.
AH, S-SORRY.
OR ARE YOU HERE TO HEAR WHAT I HAVE TO SAY?
ARE YOU HERE TO FOOL AROUND?
YOU SAID, "EVERYTHING," RIGHT?
YOU'RE IN FOR A LONG STORY, THEN.
VERY WELL.
SFX: CLACK CLACK CLACK

IT ALL BEGAN...
...ABOUT TWENTY YEARS AGO.
ONE DAY...
...A BRAND NEW ISLAND SUDDENLY APPEARED IN THE SEA OF JAPAN.
IT ROSE FROM THE SEA IN A PHENOMENON UNEXPLAINED BY MODERN GEOLOGY.
TWO STUDENTS— A MAN AND A WOMAN—MADE LANDFALL, THEIR CURIOSITY PIQUED.
THE "SEKIREI PROJECT."
IT WAS ON THAT ISLAND THAT THIS WHOLE ABSURD STORY BEGAN.

...THE RUINS OF A MASSIVE ARK.
BUT ALSO...
...WHAT SLUMBERED WITHIN.
ON THE ISLAND— WHICH WOULD LATER BE CALLED "KAMIKURA ISLAND"...
...THE TWO STUDENTS DISCOVERED ...
108 LIFE-FORMS.
108...!?
SO THOSE WERE...
YES.

THEY WERE US.
ALL THE SEKIREI.


...MIYA.


MY, MY. ABSURD, INDEED.

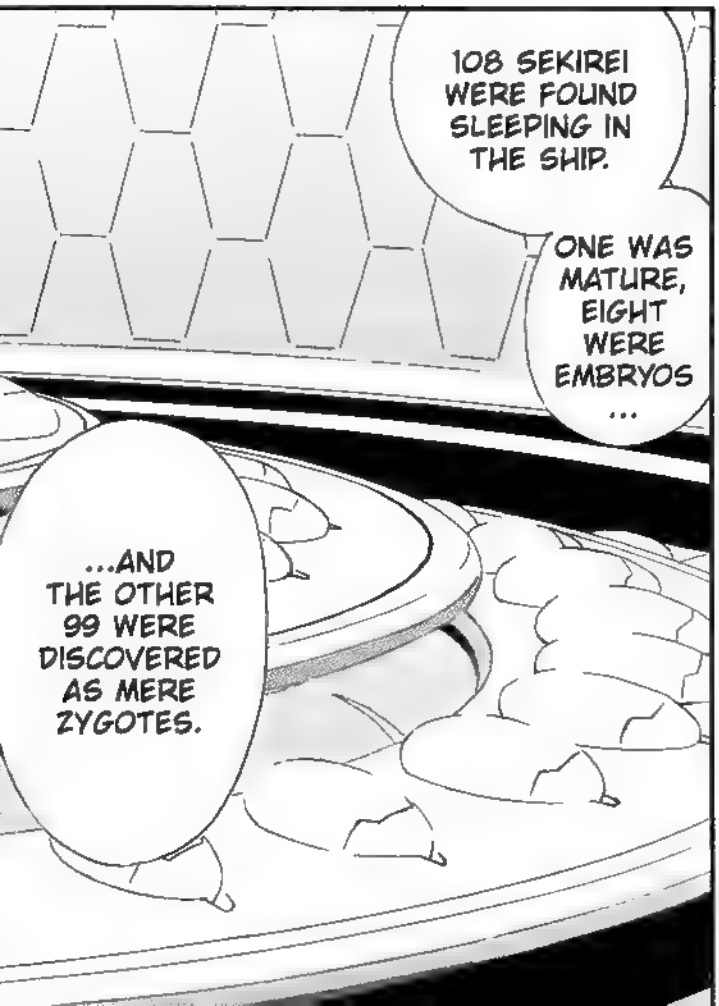
YOU'RE ONE TO TALK.

UFUFUFUFU.
AND I'M JUST THE YOUNG, BEAUTIFUL LANDLADY OF A BOARDING HOUSE. ♡
NO. 00? NO. 01? I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF IT.
CUT THAT OUT, MIYA. YOU'RE SCARING ME.
EAVES-DROPPING... IS A BAD HABIT OF YOURS.
THAT'S MATSU'S WIRETAPPING SPEAKER, ISN'T IT?
Sekirei? ...Sekirei !?
IN USE SINCE VOLUME 3!!
NO, NO. THIS IS JUST A DUCK THAT TELLS PEOPLE'S SECRETS. ♡
INDEED. BECAUSE IF SAHASHI-SAN WERE TO LEARN WHAT HE SHOULDN'T...
...HE MIGHT JUST FIND HIMSELF OUT OF A PLACE TO STAY.....
DON'T WORRY. MATSU WON'T REVEAL ANYTHING SHE SHOULDN'T.
SHE VALUES HER LIFE, I'M SURE.
FU FU FU FU FU.
SHUDDER
HOW SAD THAT WOULD BE.
HE AND HIS SIX SEKIREI, WANDERING THE STREETS. ♡
YOU'RE AS SCARY AS THEY COME, YOU KNOW THAT?

...THE MAN WAS AN ECCENTRIC WHO SOUGHT THE TITLE OF "GENIUS."
ANY-HOW...
OF THE TWO STUDENTS WHO DISCOVERED THE RUINS ...
THE MAN USED THE TECH LEFT IN THE ARK TO START A PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY.
KAMIKURA ISLAND WAS A TREASURE TROVE OF HYPER-ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.
ITS PROWESS IN ALL THOSE FIELDS LED TO COMPLETE CONTROL.
HIS COMPANY BECAME A NETWORK LINKING FINANCE, TECH, AND MEDICINE ...
YOU COULD EVEN SAY HE ACHIEVED WORLD DOMINATION.
AT THE TIME... AND STILL TODAY... THE UNBELIEVABLY ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY HELPED PROPEL HIS COMPANY TO THE TOP OF THE INDUSTRY.
HE POSSESSED A NATURAL CHARISMA...
...AND AN UNSTOPPABLE DRIVE TO ACTION.
HIS INTERESTS DIVERSIFIED AND SPREAD, AND ALL HIS ENDEAVORS PRODUCED REMARKABLE RESULTS.

THAT MAN IS HIROTO MINAKA.
AND HIS COMPANY IS "MID BIO INFORMATICS" ...

MBI, FOR SHORT.


108 SEKIREI WERE FOUND SLEEPING IN THE SHIP.
ONE WAS MATURE, EIGHT WERE EMBRYOS ...
...AND THE OTHER 99 WERE DISCOVERED AS MERE ZYGOTES.

MBI...

NOW LET'S GET BACK TO THE SEKIREI.

...AH.
YEAH.
I THINK YOU'RE AWARE OF THIS PART, MINA-TAN, BUT...
...THE SEKIREI WERE "MODIFIED" AND RELEASED INTO THE WORLD.
REMEMBER HOW I SAID THE SINGLE NUMBERS TEND TO BE WILD?
WILD.
I THINK I'M STARTING TO GET IT.
SO...IF THE MATURE ONE AND EMBRYOS WERE THE SINGLE NUMBERS...
WILD.
WHAT ARE YOU TWO TRYING TO SAY?
I'M NOT SURE IF I'M WORDING THIS RIGHT, BUT.....
UMM...THE OTHER 99 WERE MANAGED FROM THE TIME THEY WERE ZYGOTES... INTERFERING WITH THEM LIKE THAT...
...MADE THEM TURN OUT REALLY DIFFERENT ...
VERY GOOD. YOU'RE EXACTLY RIGHT.
"WILD" DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN "STRONG."
RATHER, NUMBERS 10 AND UNDER HAD THEIR ABILITIES MONITORED AND STABILIZED.
THAT GAVE THEM CONTROL OVER THOSE INNATE POWERS OF THEIRS.
BUT THE PRECISE EFFECTS DEPENDED GREATLY ON WHICH MODIFIER WAS ASSIGNED TO EACH OF THEM...

TAKAMI-CHAN. ♡
MY MODIFIER WAS TAKAMI-SAN.♡
KU'S, TOO.
I...DO NOT WISH TO REMEMBER THAT.....!!
KUWABARA, KUWABARA ...
DON'T TALK ABOUT THE MODIFIERS !!
JOLT
MATSU'S MODIFIER HAPPENED TO BE TAKEHITO-SAN.
WELL...SOME MAY HAVE HAD TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES WITH THEIR MODIFIERS.
THE SINGLE "MATURE" SPECIMEN WAS ALSO HIS.
THOUGH SHE WASN'T A SEKIREI, STRICTLY SPEAKING...
MOST OF THE SINGLE NUMBERS HAD TAKEHITO ASAMA, ACTUALLY.
HE WAS ANOTHER OF MBI'S SO-CALLED GENIUSES.
VALUING HER OWN LIFE SO LITTLE. ♡
U-FU-FU.
SHE SURE SLIPPED UP FAST. ♡
Just forget I said that.
Matsu's in mortal danger if you don't.
ACK.
WHOOPS, I...
NOT A SEKIREI ...?

...ONE EVENT THREATENED THE LIVES OF ALL THE SEKIREI.
EACH SEKIREI HAD A DIFFERENT UPBRINGING IN A DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENT, SO MATSU CAN'T SPEAK TO THAT, BUT...
...BEFORE MBI BECAME THE CORPORATE JUGGERNAUT IT IS TODAY...
THE INVASION OF KAMIKURA ISLAND...
BUT THE RISE OF AN EMERGENT COMPANY... POSSESSING INCREDIBLE TECH...
OF COURSE, THAT DIDN'T GO UNNOTICED BY OTHER POWERS.
IT BECAME AN EXTRA-TERRITORIAL LOCATION THAT WAS KEPT OFF OF MAPS.
THE CEO SOMEHOW ACQUIRED THE PROPERTY RIGHTS TO THE ISLAND.
!?

IT ALL HAPPENED SUDDENLY, ONE DAY.
AND SO...
AN ARMY OF UNKNOWN AFFILIA-TION...
...INVADED KAMIKURA ISLAND.
YES. IT WAS THEN...
...THAT IT WAS FORMED.
WE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO FIGHT.
EVEN IF THERE WERE ONLY FIVE OF US.
INVA-SION...?
YOU WERE STILL SLEEPING, HOMURA-CHAN.
AND ONLY FIVE SEKIREI HAD BEEN FULLY AWAKENED.
MBI DIDN'T HAVE ITS PRIVATE ARMY, BACK THEN.

THE "PROJECT S" GUARDIAN...
THE DISCIPLINARY SQUAD.

Chapter 72: Invasion of Kamikura Island

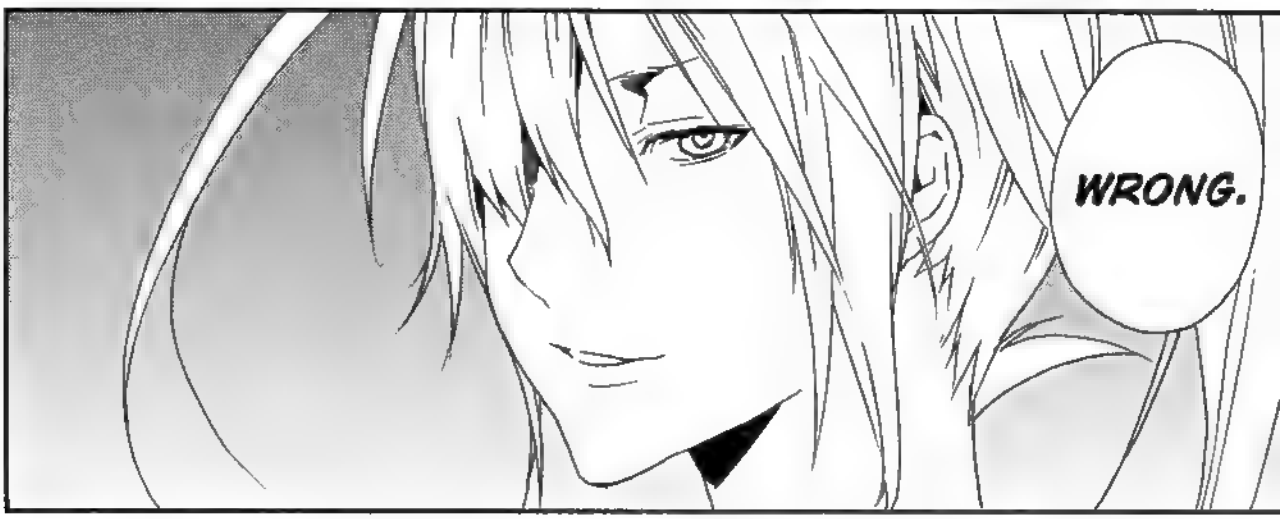
SOOO...
KARASUBA'S ACTUALLY THE THIRD LEADER OF THE DISCIPLINARY SQUAD?

FSSHH
MY WOUNDS... STING... IN THE SHOWER...
THE SECOND LEADER... WAS NO. 08, YUME.....

YUME!?
THE SECOND GENERATION INCLUDED... YUME...AND KARASUBA... JUST THOSE TWO.

FSSHH
OOH.
BENI-TSUBASA... YOU'RE THE ONE...WHO WAS INTER-ESTED...AND TOLD ME TO LOOK INTO IT...!
BEING MEMBERS GIVES US THE RIGHT TO DO RESEARCH...IN THE DATA BANK HERE...SO I DID.....
YES...
AND OURS IS... THE THIRD ITERATION OF THE SQUAD ITSELF...

MAYBE YOU JUST WEREN'T LOOKING FOR IT RIGHT!?
THERE'RE TRACES...OF THE DATA BEING INTENTIONALLY DELETED...
EVEN THE FIRST LEADER'S... PERSONAL DATA...IS GONE.
SQUEAK
BUT THAT'S ALL I COULD LEARN...
HUH!? THAT'S IT!?
THE FIRST LEADER... THE SQUAD'S FORMATION... AND BATTLE RECORDS... THE DATA'S ALL GONE...
AND WHO'S THE DAMN FIRST LEADER!?
I DON'T GET IT.
BUT I KNOW THAT GIRL PISSES ME OFF!!
IS 88 ACTUALLY OB!?
WRONG.

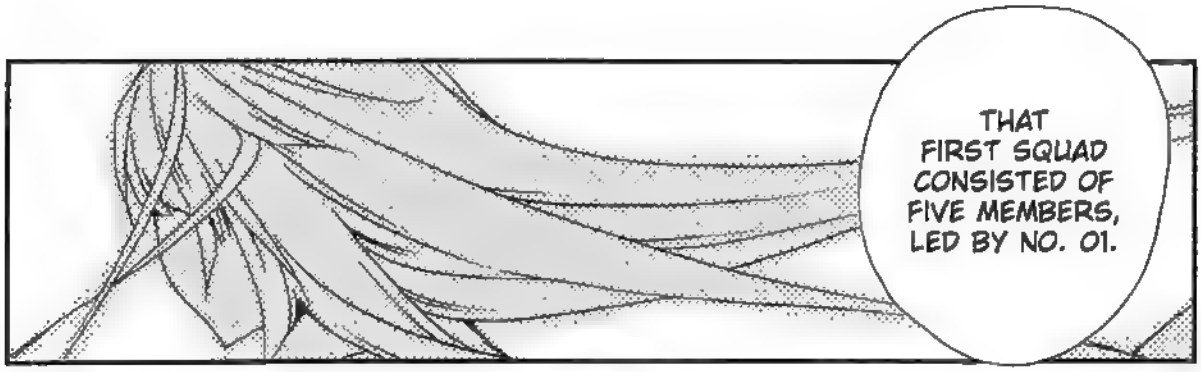

WRONG.

THE FIRST LEADER IS "TRANSCENDENT."
NO. 88 AND NO. 08 ARE SEPARATE ENTITIES.
THE SECOND LEADER, NO. 08, IS, IN A WORD...
... "IRREGULAR."

HUH?
WHAT'S THAT MEAN?
YOU TWO DON'T NEED TO KNOW.
BUT NO. 08 NO LONGER EXISTS.
AND THE FIRST LEADER'S IN RETIREMENT.
SHE REALLY DID A NUMBER ON YOU, NO. 88, BENITSU-THAT IS. BASA.
GET YOUR REVENGE DURING PHASE THREE, IF YOU CAN.
DON'T GOTTA TELL ME TWICE.
FU FU.
THIS HAS GOT ME EXCITED.
TRY TO DRAW OUT NO. 08 AGAIN FOR ME.

THE INVASION OF KAMIKURA ISLAND.....
IN ANY CASE, THE LARGEST-SCALE OFFENSIVE WAS...
BUT THAT'S ANOTHER MATTER ENTIRELY, SO LET'S LEAVE IT FOR NOW.
...THEIR TACTICS GROWING INCREASINGLY MAKESHIFT...
THE INVASION OCCURRED IN THREE WAVES...

AT THE TIME, KAMIKURA ISLAND... AND THE SEKIREI WERE PROTECTED BY...
...THE DISCIPLINARY SQUAD, FORMED FOR THAT VERY PURPOSE.
...THE INITIAL INVASION.


THAT FIRST SQUAD CONSISTED OF FIVE MEMBERS, LED BY NO. 01.

JOINING HER WERE NUMBERS 02 THROUGH 05.
THEY WERE ALL THE SEKIREI WHO HAD AWAKENED AT THAT POINT.
TAKEHITO ASAMA PERFORMED SPECIAL MODIFICATIONS ON THOSE FIVE.
THAT WOULD EVENTUALLY LEAD TO THE RUMOR AMONG THE SEKIREI IN TEITO THAT "SINGLE NUMBERS MEAN TROUBLE"...

IS THAT REALLY SO SHOCKING?
THE DISCIPLINARY SQUAD!?
EHH!?
YES, INDEED. MATSU WAS PART OF IT.

...
EH...?
WHAT'S WRONG?

FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
YOU'RE ALL PERFECTLY TUNED.
YOUR ABILITIES GO BEYOND EVEN THAT.
...NO...
NOW YOU ALL HAVE THE STRENGTH OF WINGED SEKIREI.
NOW GO.
PROTECT THE CHICKS AND EGGS.

COME ONNN!
COULD THEY HAVE PICKED A MORE ANNOYING TIME TO INVADE?
HMM? YOU MEAN HOW THIS ARMY OF NO COUNTRY ...
...IS ACTUALLY A MULTINATIONAL COALITION?
FU-FU. IT PISSES ME OFF.
USUALLY THEY'RE SO BUSY FIGHTING EACH OTHER...
...BUT NOW THEY COME TOGETHER AND CONSPIRE AGAINST US.
STOP WHINING.
...AND...IS THAT LIQUOR ON YOUR BREATH?
SO THIS ARMY'S OF "UNKNOWN AFFILIATION"? KU-FU-FU-FU.
THEY CAN'T SLIP ANY-THING PAST NO. 02.
YOU THERE.

PLEASE FOCUS ON THE TASK AT HAND.
BEHIND US...
...SLEEP 103 OF OUR DEFENSELESS PEERS.
...OKAYYY.
VERY WELL.
MATSU WILL START THINGS OFF.

ACCESS ...
... SEARCH.
whirr
click
click
ENEMY'S ARMORED DIVISION.
28 TANKS, 15 APCS.
AERIAL DIVISION: 12 HELICOPTERS.
TWO TRANSPORT VESSELS AND ONE DESTROYER OFF THE SOUTHWEST COAST.

WHOOSH
"FLOWER WHIRL-WIND."
FOOM
HARDLY A MATCH FOR US.
OH, IS THAT ALL?

BOOM
"CRUSH POINT."
TAP

RUMBLE
NO, NO.
R-RETREAT.
RETREAT.
YOU DIDN'T THINK YOU COULD MAKE A MESS ON THIS ISLAND...
...AND THEN LEAVE IN ONE PIECE?

...!!
WHAT'S HAPPENING !?
WHAT THE...!?
BOOM
BOOM

BOOM

Chapter 73: Game Master

STEP
ALL OVER, THEN?
WONDERFUL !!
YUP. THEY WERE ANNIHI-LATED.
I WAS RIGHT TO ENTRUST THEIR MODIFICATION TO YOU...
SLIP
YEAH... BUT...
SPLAT
SURPRISINGLY...
...I DON'T FEEL ALL THAT ACCOMPLISHED.

I WAS WRONG. THIS IS...
I EXPECTED MORE...I THOUGHT THERE'D BE SOMETHING TO IT ALL.
BUT WHAT WE'VE DONE WITH ALL THIS IS WHAT HUMANS ALWAYS DO.
I'VE HELPED CREATE BEINGS THAT SURPASS HUMANITY.
I'VE COME TO COMPREHEND THE HYPER-TECH.

I'M ACTUALLY EXCITED.
THAT SO?
THEY OPPOSED AND SPAT AT THE HEAVENS.
PEOPLE REAP WHAT THEY SOW.
...SO MANY PEOPLE DIED HERE.
THAT'S ALL THAT HAPPENED HERE.

LET'S TRY TO RECREATE THEM ALL, HERE AND NOW, WITH OUR OWN HANDS.....!!

THE AGE OF THE GODS...

THE WORLD OF THE GODS! THE LEGENDS!

THE WONDROUS MYTHS!!

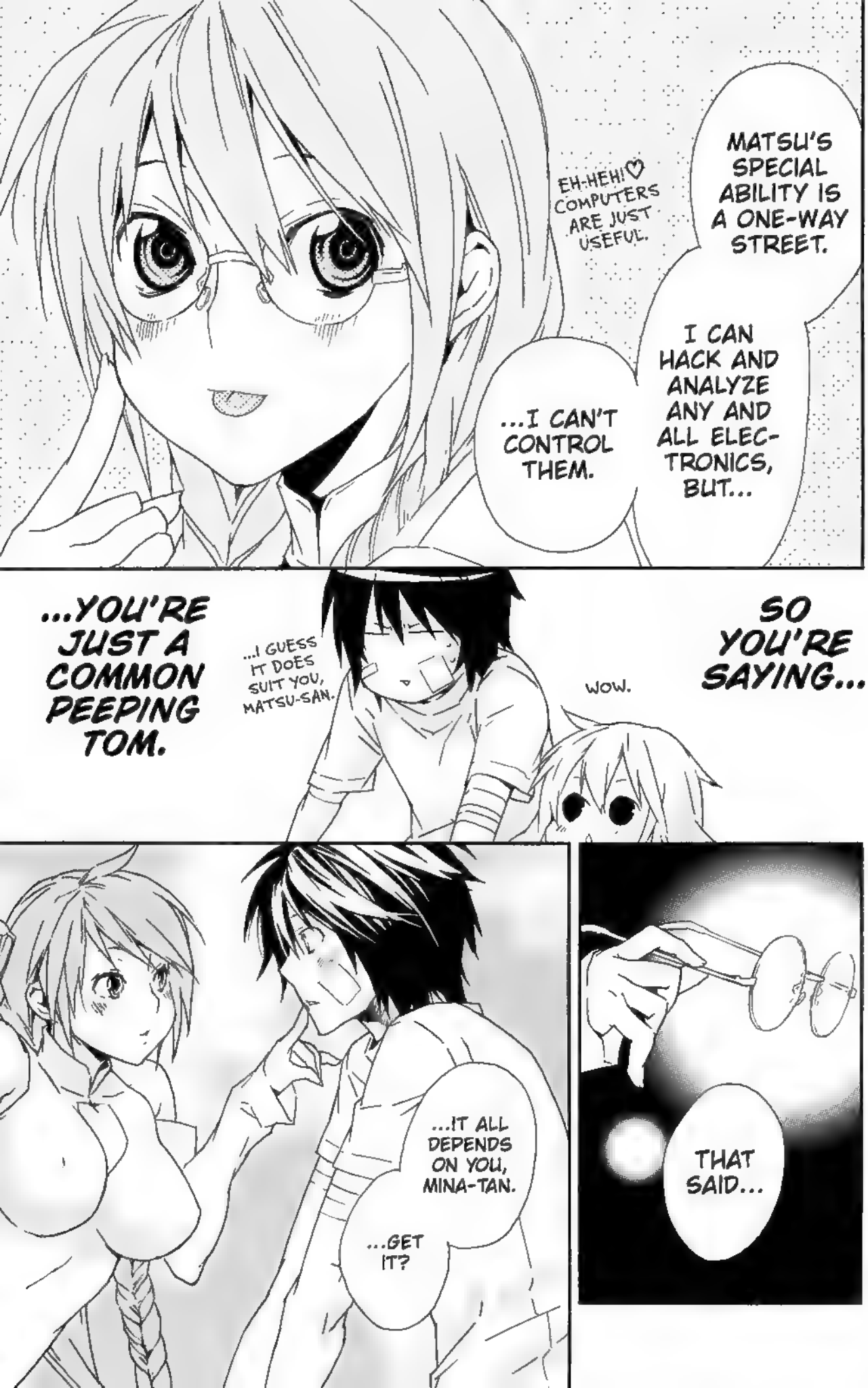
BUT LISTEN, ASAMA-KUN!

I'VE COME UP WITH A THRILLING IDEA.

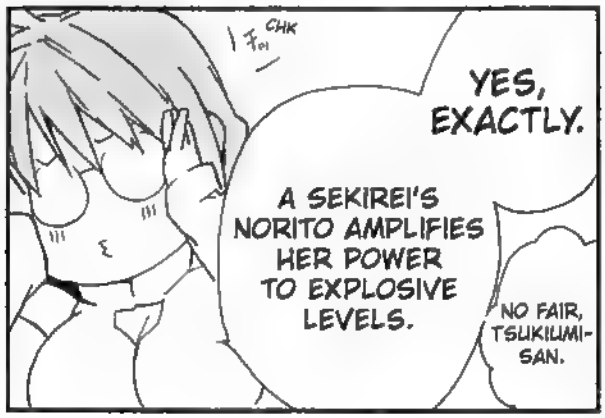
THE AGE OF THE GODS...
THE WORLD OF THE GODS! THE LEGENDS!
THE WONDROUS MYTHS!!
BUT LISTEN, ASAMA-KUN!
I'VE COME UP WITH A THRILLING IDEA.

LET'S TRY TO RECREATE THEM ALL, HERE AND NOW, WITH OUR OWN HANDS.....!!

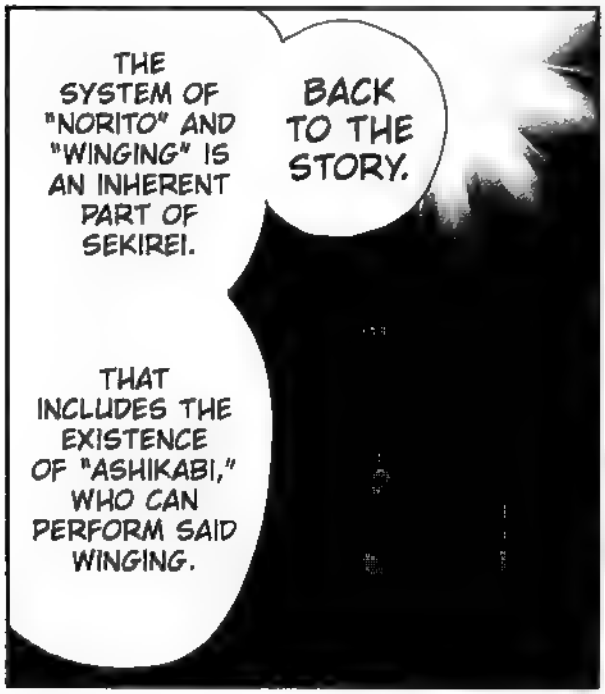
THE PLAN'S ESSENCE CHANGED DRAMATICALLY, BUT...THAT'S A STORY FOR ANOTHER TIME.
THE SEKIREI PROJECT WAS KNOWN AS PROJECT S AT THE TIME.
MATSU-SAN, YOU WERE IN THE DISCIPLINARY SQUAD?
AH... S-SORRY.
YOU'RE ALL A LITTLE TOO SURPRISED BY THAT!
AT ITS CENTER WAS TAKEHITO ASAMA...HE DISCOVERED THE SYSTEM INVOLVING ASHIKABI AND "WINGING"...
ORIGINALLY, PROJECT S'S GOAL WAS TO PRESERVE AND RESEARCH THE ORGANISMS FOUND WITHIN THE RUINS.
AH. ABOUT THAT...
IF YOU HAVE THE ABILITY TO INTERFACE WITH ELECTRONICS DIRECTLY...
...THEN WHY DO YOU NEED THESE COMPUTERS AND TOOLS...?
SO...
MATSU-SAN, IF...


MATSU'S SPECIAL ABILITY IS A ONE-WAY STREET.
I CAN HACK AND ANALYZE ANY AND ALL ELEC-TRONICS, BUT...
...I CAN'T CONTROL THEM.
EH-HEH!♡ COMPUTERS ARE JUST USEFUL.
SO YOU'RE SAYING...
WOW.
...I GUESS IT DOES SUIT YOU, MATSU-SAN.
...YOU'RE JUST A COMMON PEEPING TOM.
THAT SAID...
...IT ALL DEPENDS ON YOU, MINA-TAN.
...GET IT?

TUG
HMPH.
IF YOU GIVE ME WHAT I NEED...


CHK
YES, EXACTLY.
A SEKIREI'S NORITO AMPLIFIES HER POWER TO EXPLOSIVE LEVELS.
NO FAIR, TSUKIUMI-SAN.

IT DEPENDS ON MINATO? YOUR NORITO, THEN?
SQUISH
B-BUKIUMMUH.


BACK TO THE STORY.
THE SYSTEM OF "NORITO" AND "WINGING" IS AN INHERENT PART OF SEKIREI.
THAT INCLUDES THE EXISTENCE OF "ASHIKABI," WHO CAN PERFORM SAID WINGING.

IT WAS TAKEHITO ASAMA-TAN WHO DISCOVERED ALL OF THAT.
THOUGH HE WOULD EVENTUALLY PART WAYS WITH MBI...
TAKE-HITO... ASAMA-SAN.
MS. LAND-LADY'S... HUSBAND ...
MY HUSBAND...
HE WOULD NEVER TURN ANYONE AWAY.
Wait. So who was your modifier, Tsukiumi-san?
Ask not.
I do not wish to recall that terrifying hag.
... KAGARI-SAN.
WHY ARE YOU HIDING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DOOR?
I, UH...
THIS IS THE FIRST I'VE HEARD OF YOU SINKING BATTLE-SHIPS...

...THAT'S WHY I'M HERE, TODAY.
THAT MAN...
HE SHOWED ME THE WORLD OF HUMANS AND DROPPED ME INTO IT.

YOU CAN GET DRESSED.
YOUR EXAM-INATION'S DONE.
I'M NOTHING LIKE I WAS BACK THEN.

AH, THAT'S MY PHONE.
I GOTTA TAKE THIS.
RING
RING

KAAOORUU-KUUUUN.
ROAR
ミャアア
JOLT
ビクッ
OH. KAORU-KUN.
I ASSUME YOU DID WHAT I ASKED?
CLEANING MY HOUSE WHILE I'M GONE AND SUCH.
WHAT'S THAT? YOU FORGOT?
COME ON, KAORU-KUN.
AN OLD HOUSE LIKE MINE'LL GET MUSTY QUICKLY IF IT DOESN'T GET SOME AIR NOW AND THEN...
...HMM? WHY DO YOU SOUND HESITANT ...?
S-sure.
LATER, THEN. I'LL CONTACT YOU WHEN I GET BACK.
AS LONG AS WE'RE CLEAR.
GIGGLE
ニヤ...
... Sorry, man ...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME...
You're just too harsh on people, that's all.

...YOU'VE EVER SMILED AT ME.
...AND THE REST IS HISTORY?
UFU-FU, STOP THAT, KAGARI-SAN, KAZEHANA-SAN. UFU-FU-FU-FU.
AHHH. NO, NO, I LOVE IT.

I REALLY DID LOVE HIM.
SO MUCH SO THAT I FORGOT MY TRUE PURPOSE.
WANTING TO BE WITH HIM, I FORSOOK THE "THRONE OF GOD."
I QUIT THE DISCIPLINARY SQUAD AND THREW DOWN MY TOTSUKA BLADE.

BUT... THOSE FEELINGS OF MINE ...
IN THE END, THEY WERE RESPONSIBLE ...

MIYA ...

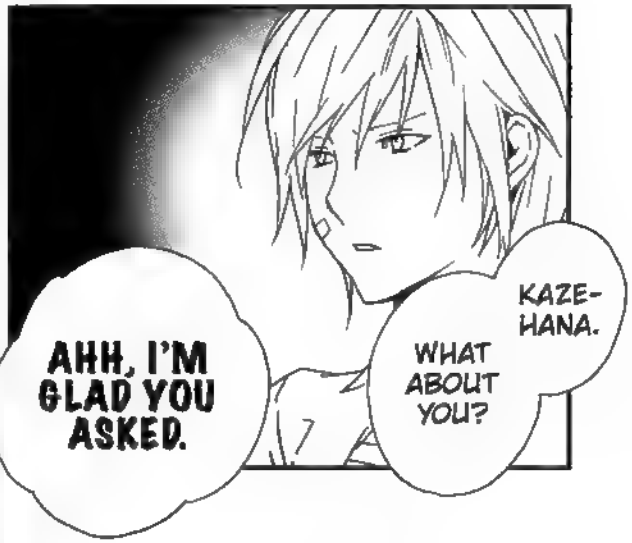
...FOR KILLING ...
... TAKEHITO-SAN.

SO, MATSU-SAN...
WHY'D YOU END UP QUITTING THE DISCIPLINARY SQUAD...?

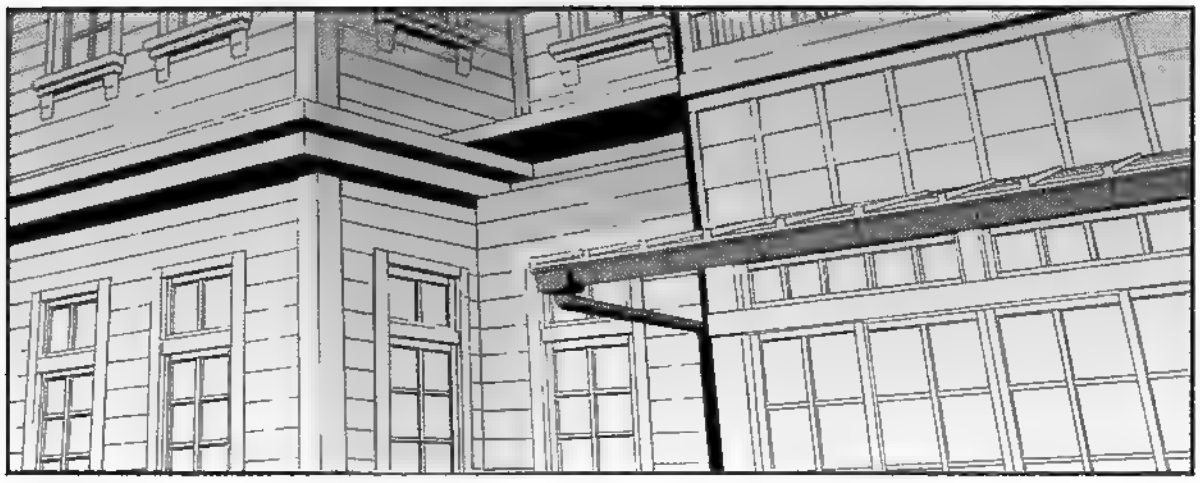
RIGHT. I WOULDN'T SAY "QUIT," EXACTLY.
...MORE LIKE... "RAN AWAY FROM."

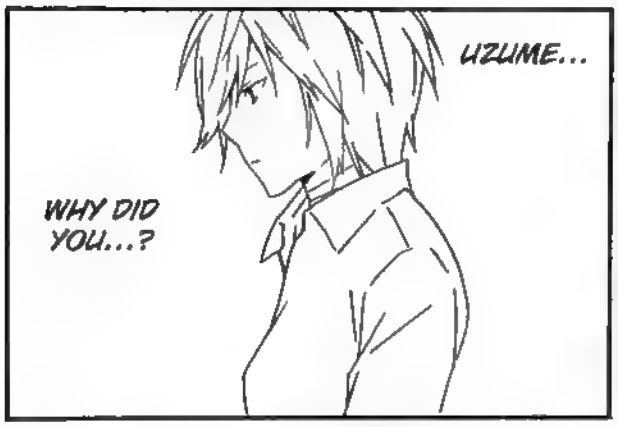
RAN AWAY!?
I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT YOU KNEW THIS ALREADY.
I'M ON THE RUN FROM MBI.
MOM

THE CEO REJECTED ME, SO I WENT ON A JOURNEY TO MEND MY BROKEN HEART...
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT...
BUT ALONG THE WAY, IT TURNED INTO A TOUR OF INTERNATIONAL DELICACIES AND LIQUOR.

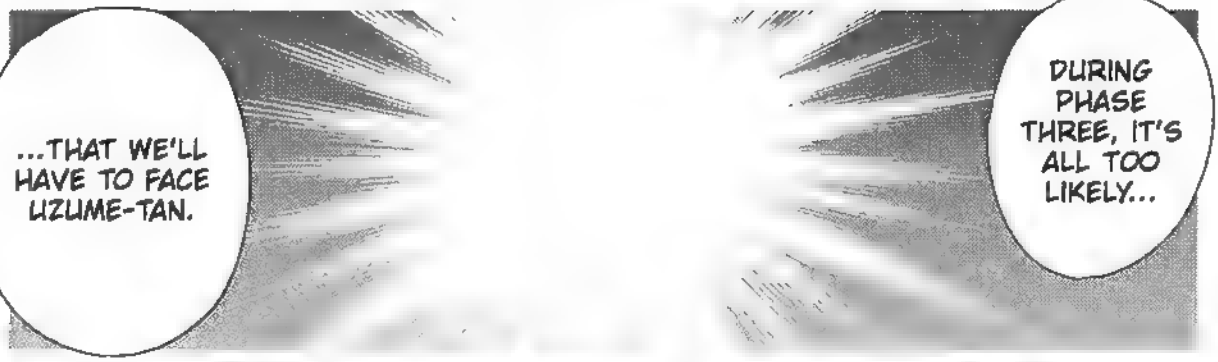

KAZE-HANA.
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
AHH, I'M GLAD YOU ASKED.

THERE WAS NEVER ANY ACCOUNTING FOR NO. 05.
ONE DAY, HE VANISHED WITHOUT A TRACE.
I NEVER THOUGHT HE'D JOIN WITH MIKOGAMI OF THE SOUTH.
FU FU.
POOR SAHASHI-SAN.
HE HAS NOTHING BUT ODD SEKIREI.
HOLD ON, NOW... MIYA!
ARE YOU INCLUDING ME?
WELL, ARE YOU??
MIKOGAMI OF THE SOUTH...
...AND ALL SORTS OF SEKIREI. ♡
THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF PEOPLE...
HUH?
ACHOO.
YOU CATCH A COLD, MUTSU?
CAN SEKIREI EVEN GET SICK...?
MUSUBI-CHAN.
UZUME-SAN SAID THAT ONCE.
THERE ARE 108 OF US, AFTER ALL.




UZUME...
WHY DID YOU...?

ALL SORTS... RIGHT.
THAT DOES SOUND LIKE SOMETHING SHE WOULD SAY.


...THAT WE'LL HAVE TO FACE UZUME-TAN.
DURING PHASE THREE, IT'S ALL TOO LIKELY...

DO YOU LIKE YOUR SEKIREI?
BY THE WAY, MINA-TAN.
UZUME-SAN...

EH?
COME, NOW. NO NEED TO BE ASHAMED. ♡
DO YOU LIIIKE US? DO YOU LOOOVE US? DO YOU LUUUST AFTER US?
UH... UMM.
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA, YOU EROTIC WITCH?
EHH... UHH.
UMM.
I...
...LIKE... YOU.

I NEED TO PLAN... AND MOVE CAREFULLY... AND FIGHT BY YOUR SIDE.
I...DON'T WANT TO GET IN THE WAY ANYMORE.
I...LIKE ALL OF YOU...
THAT'S WHY...

...THE REASON WE ALL FELL FOR YOU, MINA-TAN. ♡
THAT'S ...
I'M RELIEVED TO HEAR THAT.
KU-FU. ♡

...ASHIKABI WILL HAVE TO FIGHT TOO. THAT MEANS YOU, MINA-TAN.
IN PHASE THREE...

Chapter 74: Phase Three

...FIGHT TOO...?
ASHI-KABI HAVE TO...
NO, NO.
AH, NOT QUITE.
I'M NOT SAYING YOU'LL BE FIGHTING SEKIREI.
PHEW.
TH-THAT'S A RELIEF...
I... HAVE TO FIGHT...?
I USED THE WORD "FIGHT" BECAUSE OF THE SPECIAL NATURE OF THE RELATION-SHIP BETWEEN SEKIREI AND ASHIKABI.
WHAT'S THE ONE ABILITY THAT SEKIREI CAN'T USE ON THEIR OWN?
YOU MEAN... NORITO?
YES. GLAD YOU'RE KEEPING UP.
THE POWER OF NORITO IS A KEY FACTOR THAT CAN TURN THE TIDE OF ANY SEKIREI BATTLE.

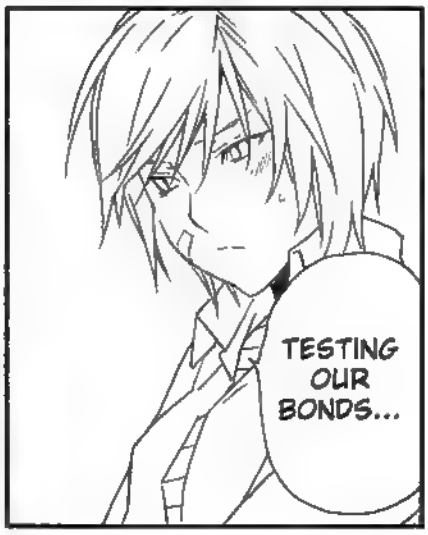
EXCITED
わくわく
EXCITED
わくわく
ACTIVATING A NORITO IS IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS THE ASHIKABI IS PHYSICALLY THERE.
THAT'S WHY ASHIKABI HAVE TO BE PRESENT AT SEKIREI BATTLES.
OH, ONE MORE THING.
AND NOW WE'RE GETTING TO THE CRUX OF PHASE THREE.
Matsu used her afore-mentioned ability and intelli-gence...
...to observe, overhear, and research MBI's sinister designs.
I've learned quite a few things about Phase Three.

I ABSO-LUTELY HATE IT WHEN YOU DO THAT.
"TESTED"?
HUH? "SHOWED"?
ARGH. STOP SPEAK-ING IN RIDDLES!!
TSUKIUMI'S PROBABLY A "JOCK-TYPE"...
I ASSUME THAT NOT ONLY THE INTELLIGENCE-TYPES BUT ALSO MINA-TAN'S GROUP AS A WHOLE ARE BEING TESTED.
WELL.
THERE ARE OTHER INTELLIGENCE-TYPES WHO CAN CRACK SECURITY SYSTEMS JUST AS WELL AS MATSU.
SO IT'S ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT THE CEO SHOWED ME THESE THINGS, AS HE IS WONT TO DO.
ANYHOW, WHAT MY RESEARCH TURNED UP...
...IS THAT PHASE THREE WON'T BE THE EASYGOING BATTLE ROYALE WE'VE ENJOYED UP UNTIL NOW.
...A FREE-FOR-ALL...?
SO IT'S NOT GOING TO BE...

IT WILL BE A TEST OF THE BONDS BETWEEN ASHIKABI AND SEKIREI.
THAT IS THE ESSENCE OF PHASE THREE.

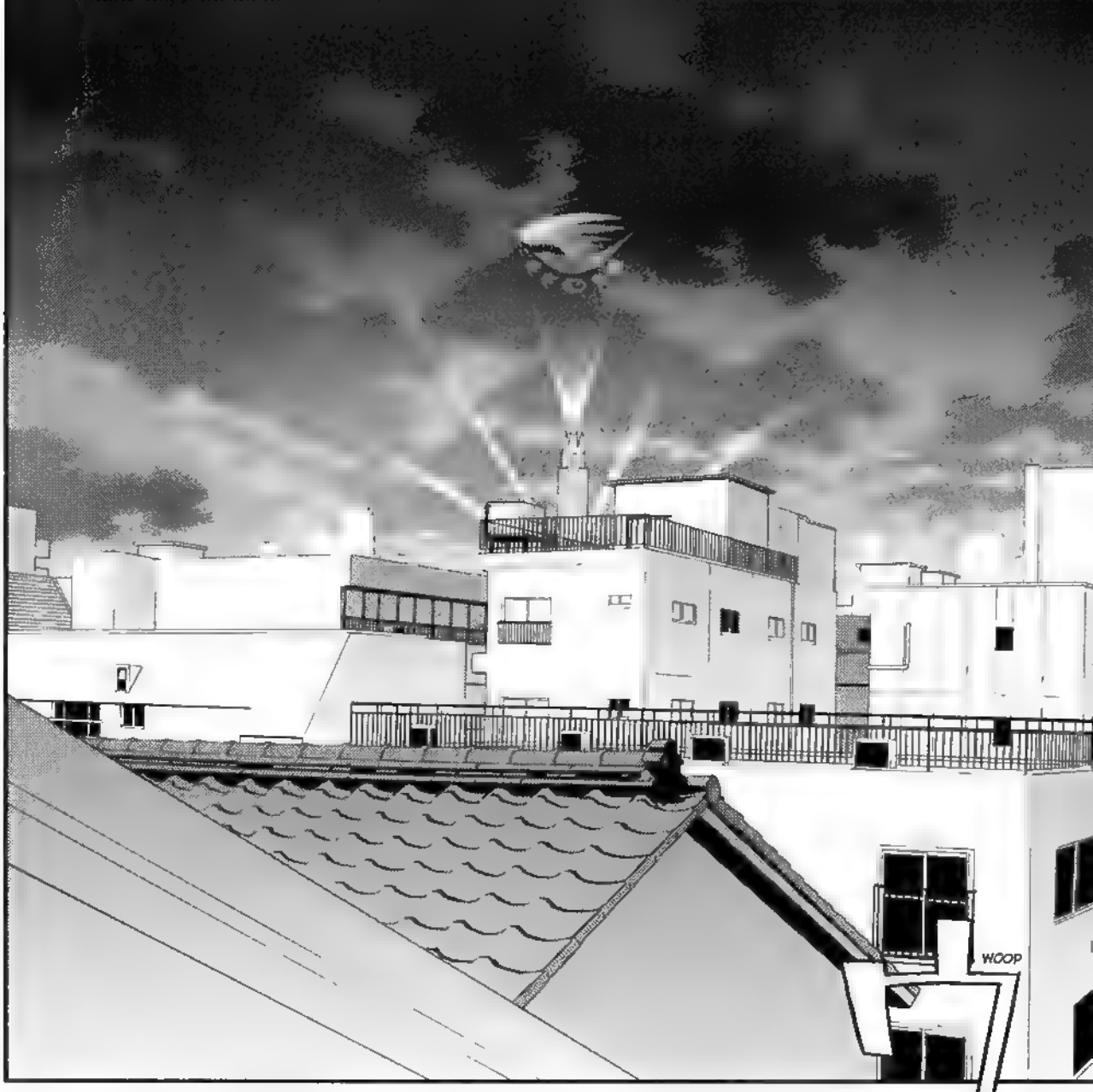
BEEP

BEEP
BEEP


TESTING OUR BONDS...

BEEP
ALERT
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
A-AN ALERT ??
SA-HASHI !!

LOOK OUT-SIDE.
KAGARI-SAN.
...WH-WHAT'S ... ... THAT ...?


WOOP

WOOP
WOOP

RING
RING
RING
WOOP
WOOP
WOOP
→ring←
→ring←
→ring←
→clik←
...Hey there, Kaoru Seo-kun.
...THIS SIREN'S OBNOXIOUS.
SHUT IT OFF. I CAN'T HEAR YOU.
Ohh! Sorry about that.

You should be honored!
You guys have been selected as contestants for round one!!
Time to start...
...Phase Three of the Sekirei Project.

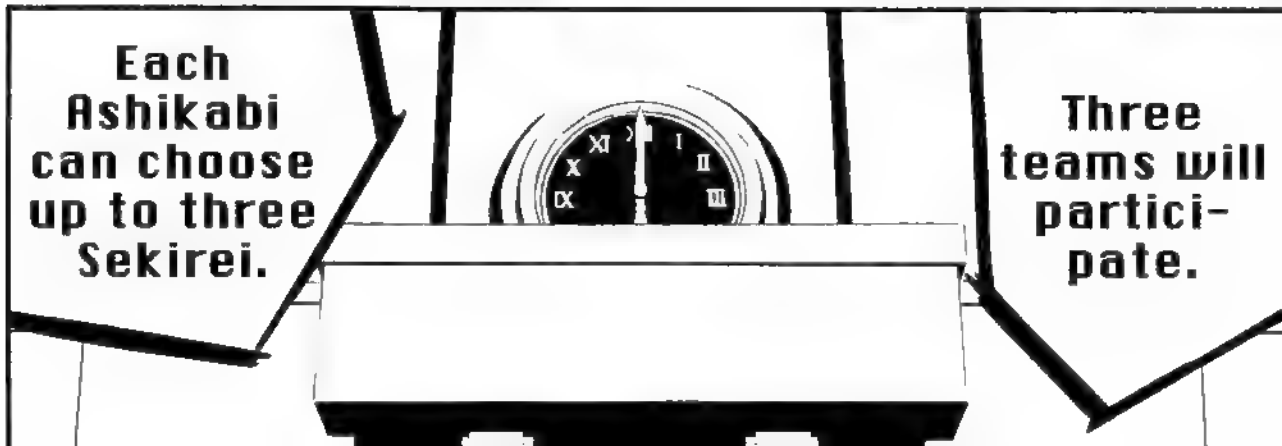
MAYBE IT GOT OUT THAT WE HELPED WITH THE ESCAPE PLAN.
...PICKING ON ME...? SHIT.

I HAVEN'T FORGIVEN YOU FOR THAT.
YOU STOOD BY AND LET TAKEHITO DIE.

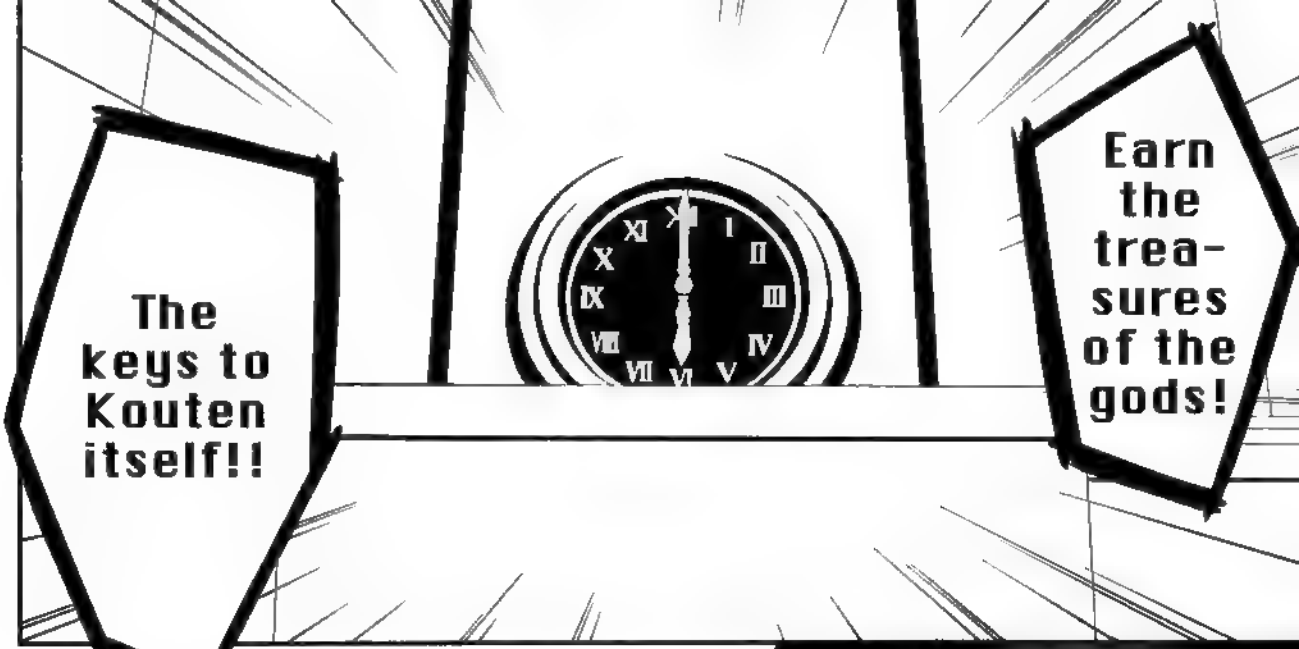
PHASE THREE? DON'T GO THINKING I'LL PLAY ALONG WITH YOUR STUPID LITTLE GAME.
Then why are you still here in Teito?
As an Ashikabi, no less.
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
...Seems Asama-kun granted you an interesting ability?
I'd love to see it for myself... Heh-heh-heh.

FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM

...TCH.
THINGS JUST TOOK A TURN FOR THE ANNOYING.


Each Ashikabi can choose up to three Sekirei.
Three teams will partici-pate.

And now ...
Fight on, Sekirei.
You must fight.
The rules are subject to change, so the next round may, in fact, be different.
Similarly, I'll prepare different, thrilling battle-grounds for each round!!
M-MY PHONE?
ARE YOU RECEIVING A CALL!?
MI-MINA-TAN.
CHECK YOUR PHONE, MINA-TAN!!
Ashikabi will be forced to pitch in.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FIGHT IN ROUND ONE.
WH-WHAT?
PHEW.
THANK GOOD-NESS.
YOU WEREN'T CHOSEN THIS TIME.
SILENCE

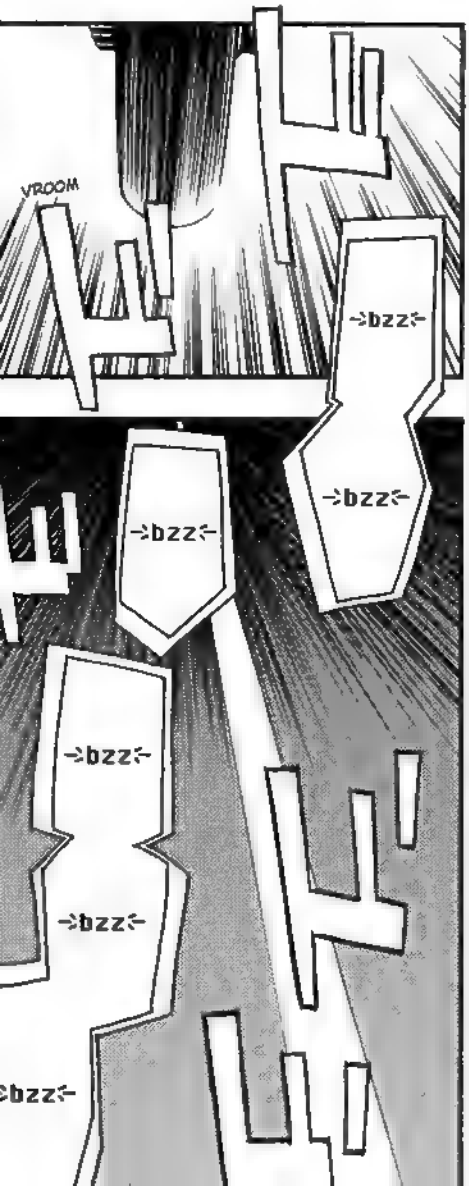

The keys to Kouten itself!!
Earn the treasures of the gods!

EH? IT'S REALLY YOU?
REALLY? REALLY? SWEET.
YEAH, I'LL GO!
BYE.

→ring←
→ring←

WELL, Y'SEE...
WHAT'S GOT YOU SO EXCITED?
NO. 15! BRING THEM HERE.
I'LL TAKE NO. 65, NO. 39, AND, UHH...
MUTSU...NO, YOU'RE TOO STRONG. IT WOULDN'T BE ANY FUN.

...I'M OFF IN SEARCH OF A TREASURE. ♪
I THINK IT'LL EASE MY BOREDOM A LITTLE.


VROOM
→bzz←
→bzz←
→bzz←
→bzz←
→bzz←
→bzz←

SCREEE
CLICK
bzz
...
WHILE I'M RIDING? REALLY? FREAKIN' ANNOYING.
WHAT IF THAT CAUSED A CRASH, HUH? WHAT THEN?
WHAT IS IT, SANADA?
HUH?
PHASE THREE?

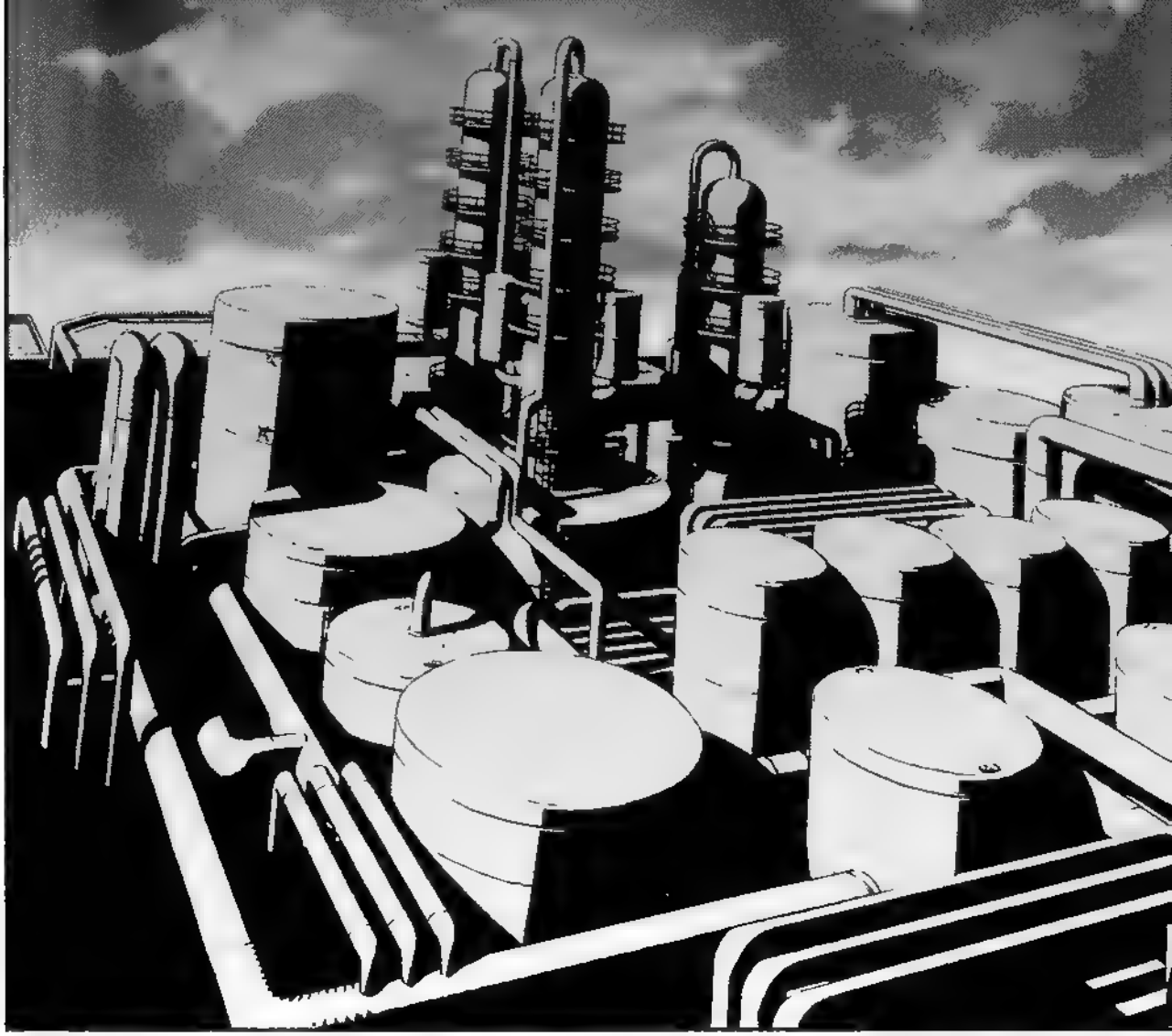
MINA-TAN.
OVER HERE, PLEASE. IT'S STARTING.
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK

WHY, THE FIRST ROUND OF PHASE THREE...
...OF COURSE.
WHAT, YOU ASK?
WH-WHAT IS?
START-ING...?

Chapter 75: Treasure of the Gods' Age

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.
SO BEGINS PHASE THREE.

THIS IS BEING BROADCAST LIVE.
Three teams will participate in the first round.
Each Ashikabi can choose up to three Sekirei.
DAMN...! WHAT'S HE UP TO?
The site? Teito Harbor.
MBI's processing plant island.



THE GODS CAME DOWN TO THE EARTH IN AME-NO-IWAFUNE, TREASURES IN HAND.

OF A DISTANT AGE.

THE "GOD VESSELS," OR "JINKI."
00
LIVE
I've taken one of those jinki...
...and hidden it somewhere in here.
Whoever can find it first...
...wins the first round.

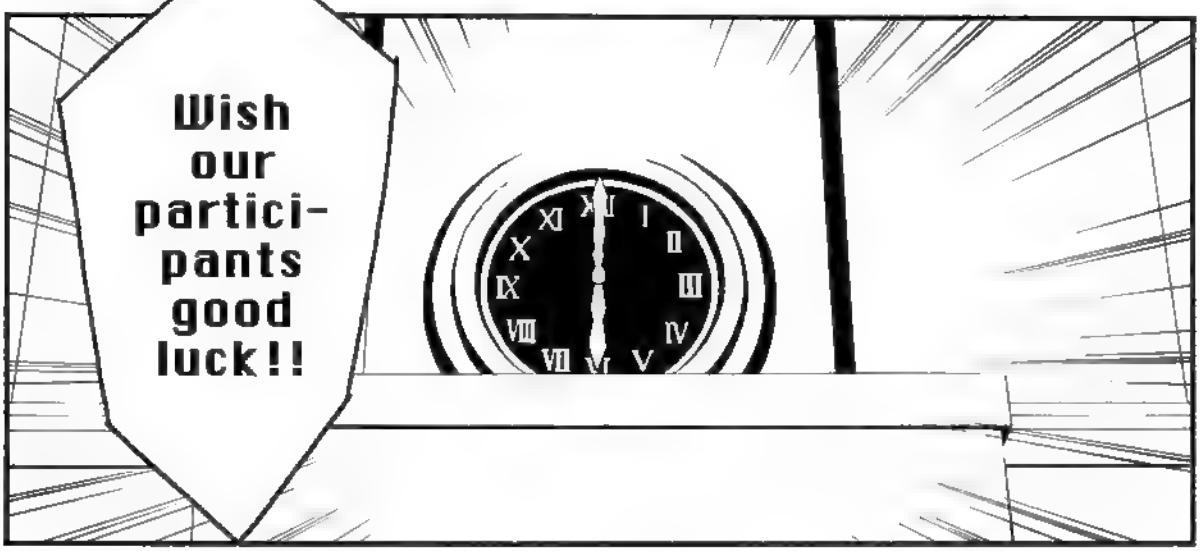
"JINKI"...
SO THAT DAMN MINAKA'S FINALLY PUT THEM INTO PLAY.
THOSE *THINGS*.

YES.
HE'S SAVED ME THE TROUBLE OF SEARCHING.

Fight on, Sekirei. You must fight.
THIS IS BAD.
... WHY?
Ashikabi will be forced to pitch in.
The rules are subject to change, so the next round may, in fact, be different.
Similarly, I'll prepare different, thrilling battle-grounds for each round!!
Earn the trea-sures of the gods!
IT'S THE SORT OF SITUATION THAT'LL GET MIKOGAMI FIRED UP.
BECAUSE HE'S A COLLECTOR.
The keys to Kouten itself!!

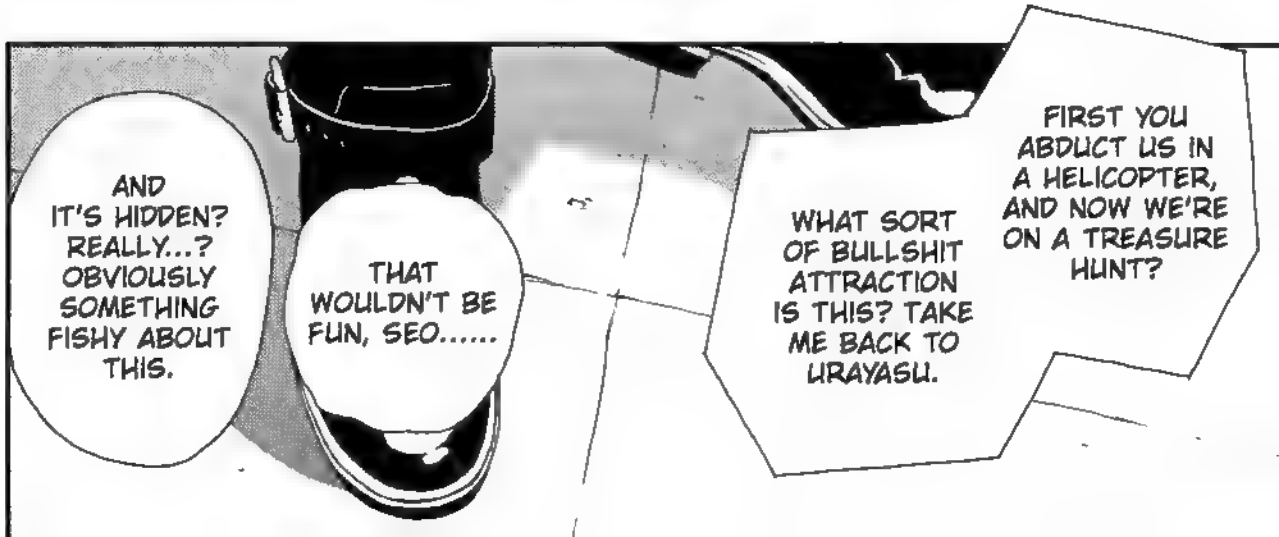
YOU'RE REALLY INTO THIS SORT OF THING, MIKO-SAMA.
I'VE GOT A SHOT AT RARE ITEMS!!
SWEET ...!
MIKO-SAMA?

MIYA...


Wish our partici-pants good luck!!

Let the first round begin!
THIS ROUND'S CONTES-TANTS.
THAT'S ...
!

SEO-SAN!?


FIRST YOU ABDUCT US IN A HELICOPTER, AND NOW WE'RE ON A TREASURE HUNT?
WHAT SORT OF BULLSHIT ATTRACTION IS THIS? TAKE ME BACK TO URAYASU.
THAT WOULDN'T BE FUN, SEO.....
AND IT'S HIDDEN? REALLY...? OBVIOUSLY SOMETHING FISHY ABOUT THIS.

THIS WAY
GUIDE-POSTS?
TOO KIND OF HIM.
WHAT'S UP?
HIC.
WAH! WAH!
THERE'RE THREE TEAMS TOTAL, YEAH?
WHO'RE THE OTHER TWO, I WONDER .....
NO CHOICE, HUH. LET'S GO...
TAKEHITO'D PROBABLY BITCH AT ME FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE IF I QUIT AFTER COMING THIS FAR...
YOU REALLY ARE A PIECE OF UTTER TRASH, AREN'T YOU ...?
DON'T BE SO MEAN, HIKARI.
THIS IS ROUGH ENOUGH AS IT IS.
WAHHHHH!

TURN
WAHHH. WHERE AM I?
THIS PLACE IS SO BIG. I'M LOST.
WAHH. WAHH.
WAH—
...
...AH.

YOU'RE A SEKIREI, RIGHT?
WHERE'S YOUR ASHIKABI?
GRAB
TAUT
DASH
.....!!!
I'M SORRY, MASTER.
NOOO.
HELP ME.
HE'LL KILL ME. HE'LL DO BAD THINGS TO ME.
MMM.
AM...
AM I STUTTERING...?
KUZURI'S BEING DEFILED.
BAD THINGS? GEEZ.
I ASKED WHERE YOUR ASHIKABI IS.
NOOO.

SEO!?
WHAK
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU, KUZURI.
YOU BASTARD.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING TO MY LOVELY, HERE?
HUH !?
MASTER! ♡♡

Sekirei☆ Halloween☆ Parade

WHAT'S HA-LO-EEN, BIG BRO?

UMM, IT'S A HOLIDAY OVER IN AMERICA.
PEOPLE DRESS UP IN COSTUMES, AND KIDS GET CANDY...
THEY SAY "TRICK OR TREAT."
GET AWAY FROM MINATO, YOU.

HUG
K-KAZE-HANA-SAN.
OOH, IT'S TONIGHT.
HOW FUN! ♡

I TAKE IT YOU WANNA GO, KU-CHAN?
CANDY! CANDY!

MUSUBI WANTS TO GO TOO! ♡
IT SOUNDS FUN! ♡

CANDY!!

WH-WHAT'S THAT LOOK MEAN?
UFU. I THINK I'VE GOT IT.
IF IT'S HALLOWEEN, THERE'LL BE A COSTUME PARADE. ♡
WAIT... KAZE-HANA!!
UN-HAND ME.
SHE'S GOT PLENTY.
COME TO UZUME-CHAN'S ROOM, EVERYONE. ♡
COSTUMES, COSTUMES. ♡♡
GRAB
COME ALONG, TSUKI-UMI. ♡
SAHASHI-SAAAN. PEEPING IS PROHIBITED AT IZUMO INN.
UFUFU
BADUM
BADUM
S-SOUNDS LIKE THEY'RE HAVING FUN...
TSUKIUMI'S CRY
AHHHH.
WHY MUST I DRESS LIKE THIS...?
WH—

AND KAZEHANA-SAN'S A WITCH. ♡
RIDING A BROOM, EVEN. ♡
AWW! ♡ A CAT.

AWW, A PUMPKIN!!
HOW CUTE, KU-CHAN!!
MUSUBI IS A BAT.
UFU-FU. THEY CALL THAT A JACK-O'-LANTERN.

WAHHHHH
.....
...
WAHH...

LET MATSU JOIN YOU GUYS.
I WENT WITH THIS BECAUSE I'M ON THE RUN FROM MBI, YOU SEE.
MATSU TOO...

CREEPY, BECKONING HAND MOTION
YOU'RE COMING TOO.
N—
NO, I'M GOOD.

I THINK ...?
TH-THEY SURE ARE HAVING FUN...?
UWAHHH!
NO, THAT WAS CLEARLY A SCREAM—

UFU. YOU WON'T GET AWAY. ♡
GRAB
ガシ

TWITCH
KAGARI-CHAAAN.

POUT

CREAK
GYAHHH!!

SO COOL.
MY, MY, WHAT A LOVELY VAMPIRE. ♡

KNOCK
KNOCK
ARE YOU ALL DRESSED UP?
TIME TO GO.

AH, SORRY.
IT'S JUST ME.
MS. LANDLADY LENT ME THIS COSTUME...
I THINK IT WAS HER HUSBAND'S.

SFX: WHAP WHAP WHAP WHAP WHAP
LET'S GET GOING. ♡
OKAY, EVERY-ONE.
OUCH, OUCH.
S-SORRY.
DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT!!
Y-YOU FOOL!!

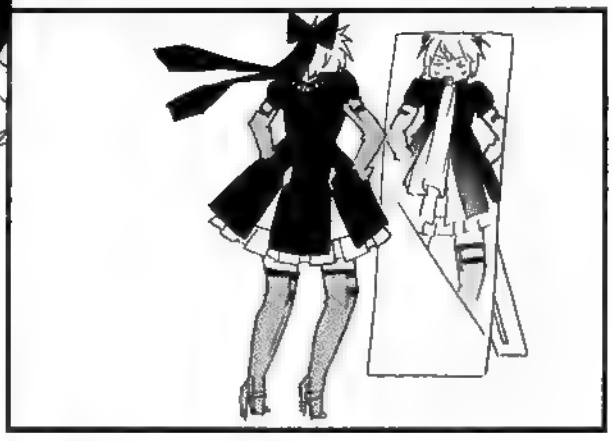
SIGN: HALLOWEEN
SALE
Sekirei 8 -End

THE STORY
CONTINUES IN VOLUME 9...!

WHAT I WANNA BE

CONCEPT ART OF BIG BOOB BRIDES →

BOX: MINAKA DELIVERY



TONIGHT'S THE NEIGH-BORHOOD FIREWORKS FESTIVAL.
SOMEONE MENTIONED, "NOTHING BETTER THAN YUKATA FOR FIREWORKS."
WE'LL GO ON AHEAD...
...AND PICK OUT A GOOD SPOT.
AT IZUMO INN, THOUGH, THE FIREWORKS FESTIVAL...

Side Story: Sekirei Yukatabira

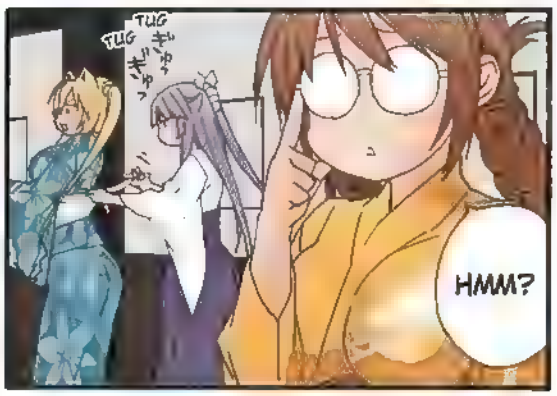
MADAME LANDLADY.
...HAS TURNED INTO A "SEKIREI YUKATA BATTLE."
WAIT YOUR TURN, TSUKIUMI-SAN. YOU'RE AFTER MATSU-SAN!
WE DECIDED THIS BY ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS, NO?
HURRY UP AND HELP ME TIE THIS.
MINATO... HE'S ALREADY GONE ON AHEAD.
MUSU-BI...
...PUT THE YUKATA ON BY HERSELF!!

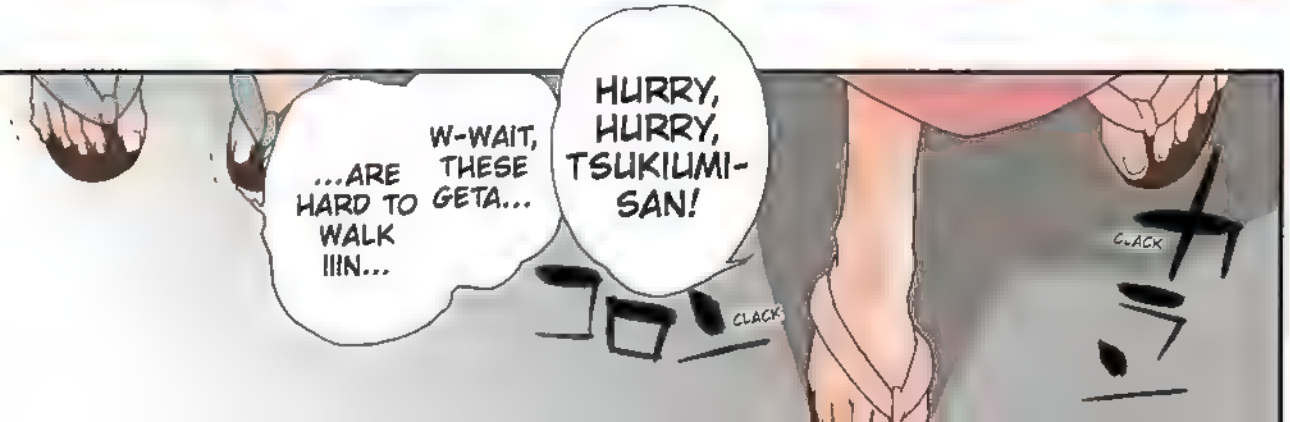
MESSY
KYAH!
TUG
TRY AGAIN!
YOU CAN'T GO OUT LOOKING LIKE THAT.
WAIT RIGHT THERE.
HERE I GO.
THAT IMMODEST LOOK IS ABSOLUTELY UNACCEPT-ABLE.
UHH.
FIGURING THIS OUT IS HARD.
IT'S NOT SO DIFFERENT FROM ORDINARY GARB.
NO, IT'S HARD.
WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT, TSUKIUMI-SAN!?

MESSY
SEE, JUST LIKE MUSUBI!
HMM...
NOW, NOW. STOP FOOLING AROUND, YOU TWO.
I'M FINISHED WITH MATSU-SAN, OVER HERE.

I'M OFF.

THIS DOESN'T LOOK GOOD.
RUMB
THE SKY...
IT'S GOTTEN A BIT CLOUDY.

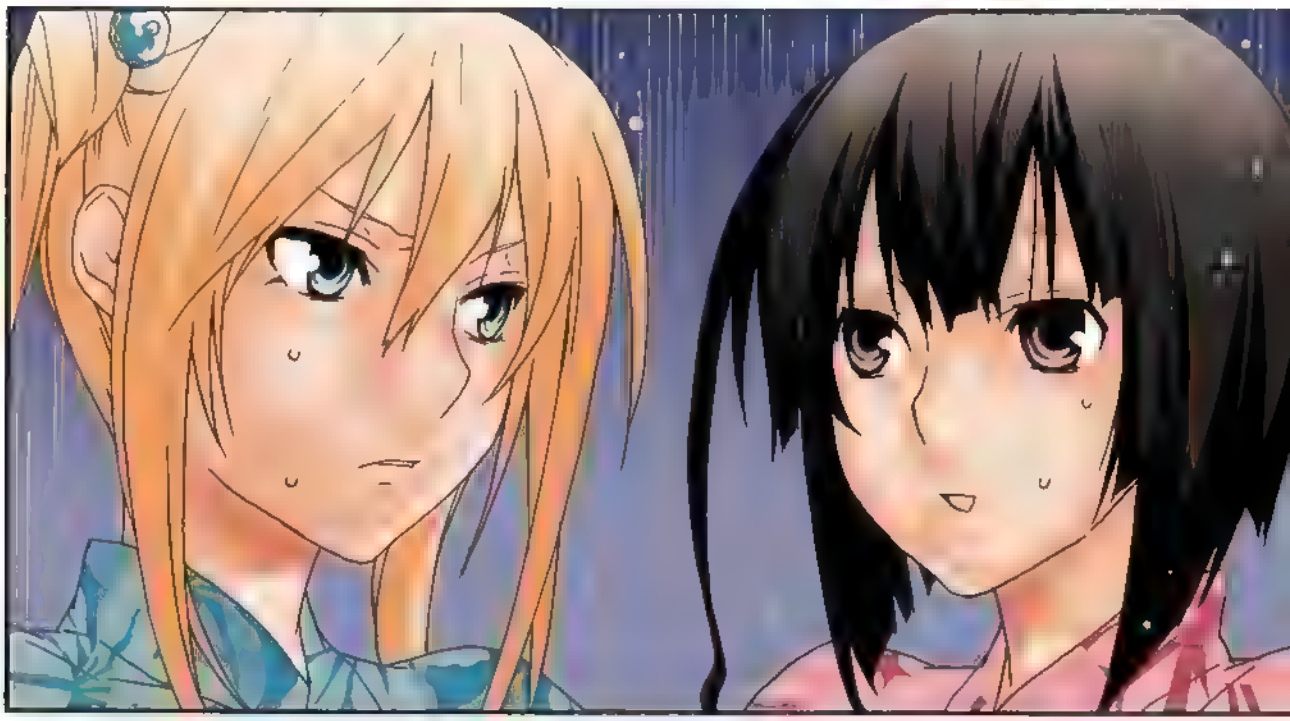

TUG
TUG
HMM?


HURRY, HURRY, TSUKIUMI-SAN!
W-WAIT, THESE GETA...
...ARE HARD TO WALK !!!N...
CLACK
CLACK

THANK YOU, MADAME LANDLADY!
WE'LL BE BACK LATER!
OH?
DRIP
DRIP
HOLD ON, YOU TWO.
VERY GOOD. HAVE FUN.

FSSSHH

THE FESTIVAL MUST'VE BEEN CANCELED.
NOOOO, I'M SOAKED.



MUSUBI IS TOO...
YES...
I'M...
...SUDDENLY EXHAUSTED
...

Sekirei

DISCI-
PLINARY
SQUAD
LEADER...
...YOSHIYA
SENGEN
!!!

MINATO'S NIGHTMARE CONTINUES...

TO THOSE WHO CHECKED UNDER THE BOOK JACKET BEFORE READING THIS VOLUME, SORRY!! THAT'S A PRETTY BIG SPOILER ABOUT THE DISCIPLINARY SQUAD.

SEKIREI 8

Sakurako Gokurakuin

Translation: Caleb D. Cook

Lettering: Phil Christie

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